

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

# INTRODUCTION

# VISION STATEMENT

<b>Mission Statement</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Seattle's Parks &amp; Recreation --</b>	
<b>Into the Twenty-First Century</b>	<b>4</b>

# POLICY STATEMENT

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Fundamental Responsibilities</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Policy Statement – Partner for Recreation</b>	<b>9</b>
Development of Park & Recreation Facilities	9
Management & Maintenance of Parks Facilities	13
Recreation Programs	16
<b>Policy Statement – Steward of Park Resources</b>	<b>20</b>
Acquisitions & Development	20
Park Management & Environmental Stewardship	25
Environmental Education	30
<b>Distribution Guidelines</b>	<b>32</b>
Community Centers & Indoor Pools	32
Park & Recreation Facilities	34
Open Space & Parks	39

# 6-YEAR ACTION PLAN

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Action Plan – Partner for Recreation</b>	<b>45</b>
Development of Park & Recreation Facilities	45
Management & Maintenance of Parks Facilities	56
Recreation Programs	59
<b>Action Plan – Steward of Park Resources</b>	<b>63</b>
Acquisitions & Development	63
Park Management & Environmental Stewardship	73
Environmental Education	76

# I N T R O D U C T I O N

This is Seattle's Parks and Recreation Plan 2000, as adopted by City Council Resolution 30181. It updates the Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation's COMPLAN, a comprehensive plan for parks and recreation that addressed the City's open space, park and recreation services for a 10- to 20-year time frame when it was first prepared in 1993. The COMPLAN, adopted by City Council Resolution 28763, is a general guide and framework for decisions and policy directions affecting the future of Seattle's park and recreation system and represents a functional plan consistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan, *Toward a Sustainable Seattle — Seattle's Plan for Managing Growth*.

This is the first update of the 1993 COMPLAN. Like the original COMPLAN, this 2000 Update is intended to be a living document through which changing conditions as well as ongoing public involvement can be considered in decisions affecting the future of Seattle's park and recreation system. Seattle's Parks and Recreation Plan 2000 is modeled on the "Benchmarks" portion of the original COMPLAN. Included are the Department of Parks and Recreation's Revised Vision Statement, Policy Statements, and a new Six-Year Action Plan for the 2000 to 2006 timeframe.

Much has been accomplished since the 1993 COMPLAN was prepared. The Open Space and Trails Program added over 500 acres to the park system, which now totals over 6,000 acres of parks and open space. Five old community centers were replaced under the 1991 Community Center Levy program and more recently, Seattle voters approved the 1999 Community Center levy which will build, restore or expand nine community centers. The Shoreline Park Improvement Fund, with over thirty substantial shoreline acquisition and development projects, has been largely completed. The transformation of the Woodland Park Zoo per the 1976 Long Range Plan was realized with the implementation of the 1985 Zoo Bond Issue program, and plans for the future redevelopment of the Seattle Aquarium have been prepared. Over 150 acres of the old Sand Point Navy Base, including numerous buildings that will someday be converted to arts and recreational uses, have been acquired. Recreation programs have been substantially expanded and a successful Late Night Recreation program instituted at selected community centers. Volunteerism and stewardship have been fostered with volunteer programs and neighborhood based planning for park improvements. The Department has

concluded a successful reorganization from a functional to a geographic basis for park maintenance and recreation programs as well as to decentralize the organization to be more responsive to neighborhood needs.

Seattle's Parks and Recreation Plan 2000 incorporates several policy directions that have been set since the 1993 COMPLAN was prepared. In particular, it reflects the 1994 City's Comprehensive Plan and the substantial body of work involved in neighborhood planning undertaken by the City in the past six years.

# VISION STATEMENT

The Department of Parks and Recreation has recently revised its mission statement, as follows:

*Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation will work with all citizens to be good stewards of our environment, and to provide safe and welcoming opportunities to play, learn, contemplate and build community.*

Seattle's park and recreation system is comprised of open space, parks, boulevards and trails, beaches, lakes and creeks, recreational, cultural, environmental, and educational facilities, a broad variety of programs, and people. The system is diverse and woven into the fabric of Seattle's neighborhoods. It is an integral part of everyday life within our city. The system contributes significantly to the city's identity, stability, urban design and network of public services. It promotes the physical, mental, social, and spiritual well being of our citizens. The condition of the park and recreation system reflects the city's health and is essential to our quality of life.

Planning for parks and recreation must be sensitive to the stresses and complexities of urban life, flexible to changing conditions, and be a part of the City's overall growth strategy. It must be focused on conservation of the natural environment, and meld recreation programs with human and family services. Above all, planning for parks and recreation must reflect a vision consistent with the goals and aspirations of the community.

A vision for Seattle's Parks and Recreation system combines the Department's Mission Statement with the definition of desired qualities for the system. The following Vision Statement is intended to unite the entire system of land, water, facilities, programs and services in a single image for the future.

## Into the Twenty-First Century

*Seattle's parks and recreation system will be a neighborhood-based system of open space, parks, facilities, and programs that captures the spirit of Seattle's magnificent setting in the Olmsted tradition. Seattle's parks and recreation system will:*

- be connected by boulevards, trails, public transportation, and green streets,*
- encompass views and provide opportunities for the enjoyment of the vast water resources in Seattle,*
- be linked closely with the City's neighborhoods, schools, and other city services,*
- be maintained for public enjoyment, stewardship of resources and a healthy environment, and*
- be brought to life through programs, events, employees, and the efforts of volunteers.*

### Qualities

The following qualities represent values and long term goals that follow from the Department's vision statement. Policies, strategies, and actions should be defined and evaluated in terms of achieving these qualities.

#### **Habitat**

Enhancement of both a green and a blue Seattle will be strongly advocated as will habitat for terrestrial and aquatic wildlife. Teaching a conservation ethic will be a shared goal with the schools and other resource agencies. The system of public open space will be expanded, as resources become available and maintained to conserve natural areas. Selected areas will be restored to a more natural condition, with attention to creeks and other wildlife corridors.

#### **Happiness**

The system will continue to embody and expand the spirit of play, humor, fun, and laughter, thereby remaining faithful to the unique aspects of parks and recreation, as well as contributing to individual human development potential.

**Harmony**

The system will be operated in harmony with the various goals and aspirations of a diverse population, unique neighborhoods, other public service agencies, and neighborhood-based organizations. Efforts toward outreach, coordination, and cooperation will be even more evident in the future. Fostering harmony among people of all races, cultures, and creeds by supporting diversity in hiring, programming and facilities will be a primary goal.

**Health**

The system will contribute to preventive health care and preventive public safety by promoting physical, mental, and spiritual well being. The health of citizens and the environment as well as water and land will be the major cornerstones of programs and procedures. Environmental health will be promoted through education efforts as well as vigorous conservation and recycling programs.

**Heritage**

The system represents a rich heritage. More recognition will be given to the natural and human history of the city and neighborhoods. Acquisition and development will build upon the landmark core as planned by the Olmsted Brothers.

**Hospitality**

The system will be administered to feature a spirit of hospitality for patrons and participants. Park patrons and participants will be considered honored guests. This spirit of hospitality will be an important element of employee training. The system will be characterized by a feeling of comfort, cleanliness, and security.

**Humanity**

The system, including the Department employees, will be managed to promote humanity, diversity and access to all. The park and recreation needs of youth, those with disabilities or special needs, senior adults, ethnic populations and low-income households will receive special emphasis. Sensitivity to community needs will be a hallmark of park and recreation services.

# P O L I C Y S T A T E M E N T

## Introduction

The following Policy Statement presents a framework for the Department's roles, responsibilities, and key policies that will continue to guide the provision of park and recreation services during the remainder of the 10- to 20-year duration of the 1993 COMPLAN. Previously prepared citywide activity plans and neighborhood district planning, coupled with more recent neighborhood planning, as well as specific plans for urban wildlife habitat and athletic fields, provide the planning foundation for the Department's policies. However, as noted in the original COMPLAN, flexibility and continued citizen involvement are pivotal to meeting the changing needs of Seattle's citizenry. Consequently, Seattle's Parks and Recreation Plan 2000 and the policies outlined herein are not intended to freeze or restrict the Department's responsiveness to participants, patrons, and neighborhoods.

**Roles and Responsibilities and Policies** occur within the context of the City's overall policy objectives and are to be used by the Department in guiding both long-term and day-to-day decisions concerning future budgeting, acquisitions, development, management (including maintenance and security), and programming. The Policy Statements and the 6-Year Action Plan represent a combined strategy for achieving long-term goals. Roles, Responsibilities and Policies are also regarded as a checkpoint for elected officials and citizens to be used in reviewing performance and proposals affecting parks and recreation in Seattle.

The Policy Statement begins with **Fundamental Responsibilities**. These are basic policies that cut across all services the Department provides. The Statement is then subdivided into the two major roles of the Department.

**Partner for Recreation** refers to the Department's role to develop and maintain a variety of community support facilities plus work with a network of advisory councils and other providers to offer a broad spectrum of community-based recreation, arts, cultural, and related education programs. The Partner for Recreation is comprised of three activities: **Development of Park and Recreation Facilities, Management and**

**Maintenance of Park Facilities, and Recreation Programs. Steward of Park Resources** refers to the Department's role in working with others to acquire, develop, operate, and maintain open space, parks, boulevards and trails as well as associated beaches, lakes, and creeks for public enjoyment and environmental quality. This role includes interpreting the system and teaching a conservation ethic in partnership and cooperation with the community. The Steward of Park Resources section is comprised of three activities: **Acquisition and Development, Park Management and Environmental Stewardship, and Environmental Education.**

The Policy Statement outlines **Primary Roles and Responsibilities** which indicate activities that will receive the highest priority in budgeting and **Secondary Roles and Responsibilities**, also regarded as highly desirable, but which will be more subject to budget fluctuations and more dependent on volunteers or self-help efforts. The definition of responsibilities is followed by the actual policies to guide the provision of future services.

## Fundamental Responsibilities

The following responsibilities represent a philosophy fundamental to the provision of park and recreation services in the future:

- Listen to the citizens of our city and involve them from the beginning in decisions affecting the future of their parks and recreation system, especially in their neighborhoods. Implement recommendations from neighborhood planning activities and support community initiated efforts to improve the Seattle park system.
- Strengthen our city's unique relationship with the natural environment, the land and the water by conserving, restoring and maintaining substantial open space, natural areas, shorelines, and wildlife, by demonstrating a strong conservation ethic, and conducting an effective environmental education program.
- Strengthen the park and recreation system's long relationship with the Seattle School District, the Seattle Housing Authority, other departments or agencies, and community-based organizations through joint planning, shared use of facilities, and supportive programming in order to provide the youth of our city opportunities to achieve their positive potential for human development.
- Improve the health and well being of our city's people as individuals, families, and neighborhoods as well as refresh their



spirits by providing and maintaining open spaces, recreational facilities, and programs tailored to their needs.

- Work with community organizations and other City departments to build a network of support and opportunity in neighborhoods, serve as an essential element in community development, and join with other City agencies to bring together a range of services in response to neighborhood priorities.
- Build a stronger sense of community ownership and individual responsibility among Seattle's diverse variety of communities by increasing opportunities for public involvement and by sensitive management of public lands, waters, and facilities as the common ground and as a source of pride for people of diverse ages, races, cultures, languages, and economic circumstances.
- Increase awareness of the park and recreation heritage and the Olmsted philosophy that guided the early development of Seattle's park system and that can provide a framework for future development.
- Help manage future growth and change for neighborhoods and individuals by advocating an adequate balance of park and recreation programs designed to promote respite, socialization, and education, and to provide an identifiable source of stability consistent with the City's growth management goals and policies as outlined in the City Comprehensive Plan.
- Emphasize good management and fiscal responsibility by making the most effective use of limited resources, evaluating programs and services, protecting the public interest, being accountable for achieving adopted objectives, and guarding against unrealistic expectations.
- Support and strengthen positive employee relations within the Department that foster mutual respect, professional development, participation in decision-making, and a sense of pride in one's work, high productivity, improved customer service, and sensitivity to the community we serve.

## **PARTNER FOR RECREATION**

### **Development of Park & Recreation Facilities**

#### **Primary Roles & Responsibilities**

1. Provide a reasonably equitable distribution of the following types of community facilities generally in accordance with distribution guidelines:
  - a. Community Centers and Community Indoor Pools
  - b. Sports fields, Track and Field Event Facilities
  - c. Children's Play Areas and Water Play Features
  - d. Scheduled and Drop-In Picnic Facilities
  - e. Outdoor Life-guarded Swimming Beaches (Fresh Water Only)
  - f. Tennis Courts
  - g. Outdoor Basketball and Volleyball Courts
  - h. Landscaped Boulevards, Trails, and Paths
  - i. Small Craft Facilities, Boat Ramps, and Hand Carried Small Craft Launching Facilities
  - j. Fishing Piers
  - k. Special Event Support Facilities
  - l. Park Amenities (Benches, Drinking Fountains, Water Fountains, Food Concessions, etc.)
  - m. Restrooms
  - n. Golf Courses
  - o. Dog Off-leash Areas
  - p. Special Facilities (Lawn Bowling, Horseshoes, etc.)Distribution of such facilities should be based upon existing and projected population, with consideration of expected growth in urban village neighborhoods.
2. Work with the Seattle School District to offer joint facilities and recreational programs when beneficial to the community.
3. Coordinate facility and program planning with other public agencies and community-based providers.

#### **Secondary Roles & Responsibilities**

1. Where feasible and appropriate, provide facilities that, in part, serve the needs of day-care centers and pre-school programs.

2. Where feasible and appropriate, provide multi-use spaces that, in part, serve the needs of community support services and community organizations.
3. Support the 1% for Arts Program (Note: the percentage may be increased to a higher percentage).
4. Work with education institutions and other providers to upgrade and maintain facilities for regional and national tournament-level play of amateur sports.
5. Participate in regional planning for an adequate geographic distribution of golf courses, boating facilities, sports field complexes, and 50-meter pool facilities as well as for a regional network of multi-use, pedestrian-bicycle combination, and transportation-recreation trails.
6. Provide opportunities for racquet sports (e.g., Pickle Ball, badminton) that can be accommodated in normal community center gymnasiums and outdoor park spaces, but rely on the private sector to provide opportunities for other racquet-type sports requiring specially designed single-use facilities (e.g., hand ball, racquet ball, paddle ball).

**NOTE** As technology evolves, interests change, and different cultures become more represented in Seattle's population, demand may increase for new, novel or unique activities. Where space or facilities are available and negative impacts can be controlled, the Department will strive for creative or innovative approaches to accommodate such uses. However, it will consider safety, liability, and environmental issues associated with such activities and reserve the right to conclude that such activities cannot reasonably be accommodated within the public park system.

## Policies

1. Provide for community centers and community indoor pools based upon the distribution guidelines presented in **Table 2: Distribution Guidelines for Community Centers and Indoor Pools** (p. 39). Consider integration of new facilities with other municipal facilities such as libraries, family support services, neighborhood service centers, senior centers, and the like. Consider the provision of other community gathering spaces by re-use of shelterhouses and smaller facilities for certain community center program activities and neighborhood meeting places.
2. Provide for the number and distribution of park and recreation facilities based upon community need and consideration of distribution guidelines as

presented in **Table 3: Distribution Guidelines for Park and Recreation Facilities** (p. 42).

3. Provide and maintain a sufficient geographic distribution of facility and park amenities that support arts programming, including provisions for outdoor music programs.
4. Consider the following in siting park and recreation facilities:
  - a. Need for the facility in a particular area or at a particular location, as based upon demonstrated (or anticipated) demand and distribution guidelines.
  - b. Potential impacts of the facility on the local area.
  - c. Specific site conditions relating to cost of development and operations.

As noted previously, the distribution of park facilities will be based upon existing and projected population, with priority given to underserved areas, particularly those with expected and actual growth in urban center and urban village locations.

5. Adopt life-cycle cost analysis as a means of comparing short- and long-term benefits of development projects.
6. Seek to improve barrier free access to and within park recreation facilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
7. Make multi-use the cornerstone of design principles for program spaces within community centers, with consideration given to the programmatic needs of other service providers and community groups interested in sharing space within community centers.
8. Base the design of new pools and improvements to existing pools on a friendlier family atmosphere through the addition of amenities, programs, and multiple activity opportunities.
9. Improve sportsfields to ensure playability. Improvements such as synthetic turf and lighting on selected fields will be considered to increase scheduling capacity where appropriate and where adverse neighborhood impacts as identified in public involvement processes can be mitigated. Such improvements will be identified in an update to the Joint Athletic Field Development Program.
10. Assist the Seattle School District in improvement of selected school fields for community sportsfield use.
11. Seek opportunities to assist the Seattle School District in providing amenities for school children and the public at school facilities.

12. Consider the following in the design of all facilities including the retrofit of existing facilities:
  - a. Function.
  - b. Sustainability, including energy and water conservation as well as minimizing the use of non-renewable or hazardous building materials.
  - c. Durability, standardization, accessibility for ease of maintenance, and reasonable life expectancy.
  - d. Security (as coordinated with the local area residents, the Seattle Police Department and Department staff, including reference to the Police Department's Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design).
  - e. Barrier-free access.
13. For park amenities and signage, strive for consistency throughout the system as a means both of establishing identity and of reducing maintenance costs, while recognizing special needs associated with future designation of Historic and Natural Resource Areas.
14. Recognize changing demographics and that any new or redeveloped facilities should be built in a fashion that can be flexible to meet a variety of changing needs.
15. Use adopted policies for citizen involvement to help shape the siting and design of park improvements. Such policies include requirements for notices and meetings that allow for public participation during planning and design processes.

## **PARTNER FOR RECREATION**

### **Management & Maintenance of Park Facilities**

#### **Primary Roles & Responsibilities**

1. Manage existing recreation facilities to maximize community access and use of available spaces for desired recreation and community-based programming.
2. Strengthen the mutually beneficial relationship with the Seattle School District to encourage joint use of park and school facilities to meet recreational needs. Provide for use of Department facilities by the Seattle School District and the Metro high school interscholastic sports league.
3. Maintain existing facilities to ensure visitor and participant safety and protection of structural integrity with attention to appearance, cleanliness, and visitor friendliness.
4. Provide for use of Department facilities for before and after-school activities for children.
5. Provide for scheduling and use of Department facilities by other recreation providers, other agencies and community-based organizations as defined through collaborative planning for services.
6. Provide for community groups to use community centers and other appropriate facilities for meetings and community events.
7. Manage facilities to conserve the use of natural resources including energy and water while remaining sensitive to visitor and employee health and comfort.
8. Provide scheduling services to ensure balanced opportunities for access to facilities by Department program, non-profit leagues or organizations, and drop-in users.

#### **Secondary Roles & Responsibilities**

1. Allow appropriate group rentals of facilities where there is adequate space, equipment and security.

2. Provide spaces, where appropriate for weddings, birthday parties and other celebrations.

## **Policies**

1. Operating hours will be flexible and dependent on local conditions and needs, but sensitive to potential impacts on facility neighbors.
2. A preventive maintenance approach will be the cornerstone of the Department's facility maintenance.
3. Appropriate funding levels shall be sought to address on-going maintenance needs and any increases associated with new facilities resulting from neighborhood planning activities.
4. Centralized control systems will be used to conserve energy and water, but combined with mechanisms for on-site override.
5. Facility maintenance responsibilities for joint use facilities with the Seattle School District, Seattle Transportation, Seattle Public Utilities, or other agencies will be defined in written agreements to be updated on an as-needed basis.
6. Environmental sustainability shall be incorporated into the design, construction and management of facilities through the use of recycled materials, implementation of recycling programs for solid waste, and reduced consumption of energy and water resources. Retrofits of existing facilities for energy and water conservation will be coordinated respectively with Seattle City Light and the Seattle Public Utilities.
7. Measurable maintenance objectives will be used to evaluate day-to-day facility and preventive maintenance. Such objectives will include provision of periodic inspection for public safety as well as cleanliness or appearance, review of safety and operational records, plus assessment of participant or visitor satisfaction through surveys and other methods.
8. Scheduled preventive maintenance activities that necessitate interruption of programs will be coordinated with on-site supervisors and citywide park schedulers, determined as far in advance as possible and coordinated whenever possible with other closures related to major maintenance or capital improvements.
9. The current maintenance agreement with the Seattle Arts Commission for public art will be continued, but with provisions for community self-help through the Adopt-A-Park program.

10. The Adopt-A-Park program will include opportunities for “adopt-a-facility” supplements to normal maintenance.
11. Turf sports fields will be managed to encourage single use with sufficient recovery time for turf. Where not possible, additional maintenance resources will be provided to multiple-use fields and scheduling will be reduced to protect the field. Selected fields will be evaluated for conversion to synthetic turf surfaces to maximize playing capacity.
12. Scheduling, and to some extent redevelopment, of existing facilities will be adjusted based upon changing population characteristics that affect demand for such facilities.
13. Scheduled major maintenance or capital replacement will be managed through a systematic approach involving establishment of facility categories, a complete and accurate inventory of all facilities, estimation of life expectancies of facility elements, estimated replacement costs, and regular and ongoing inspection and assessment of facilities. A Major Maintenance Plan shall be maintained and updated on a regular basis as part of the Department’s biennial Capital Improvement Program requests.
14. Major facility maintenance project costs will be refined one year in advance of budgeted implementation, when possible, through the use of preliminary engineering studies.
15. Security shall be improved in parks, recreation facilities, and open space through use of appropriate environmental design principles such as maintenance of sight lines, judicious use of night lighting, and the like.
16. The use of toxic and hazardous materials in conjunction with facility operation and maintenance will be minimized to the extent possible.



# **PARTNER FOR RECREATION**

## **Recreation Programs**

### **Primary Roles & Responsibilities**

1. Offer a broad range and level of culturally and ethnically diverse athletic, arts, educational, and social/cultural programming. The programs will serve those seeking introductory to intermediate instruction. Higher skill opportunities may be offered when not provided by others.
2. Support the existing system of citizen volunteer advisory councils that provide neighborhood-based planning of programs and advice on issues related to their respective community.
3. Collaborate on the provision and facilitation of existing and future programs with community-based providers and other agencies. Encourage partnerships with such providers and agencies, when and where possible.
4. Provide and facilitate specialized programs to complement regular programming to serve populations with special needs (youth, persons with disabilities, seniors, non-English-speaking residents, low income households and ethnic populations).
5. Provide a referral service to appropriate programs for populations with special needs, especially for recreation programs and services not offered by the Department.
6. Work with the Seattle School District and other organizations as appropriate to achieve broad-based participation in all youth activities with special emphasis on outreach for ethnic diversity, gender, those with disabilities, low income, non-English speaking youth, and other populations with special needs.
7. Support and facilitate special events consistent with City and Department objectives and policies for such events.
8. Evaluate the effectiveness of programs on a regular basis.

### **Secondary Roles & Responsibilities**

1. Provide a referral service for those seeking a skill level beyond what the Department provides to programs offered by other providers.
2. Work with schools, clubs, other jurisdictions, and organizations, as appropriate, to offer opportunities for advanced instruction and competition.
3. Teach water safety and coordinate with the Seattle Harbor Unit, Coast Guard, and other agencies on rules and regulations to ensure safe swimming and boating from Seattle's shorelines.

## **Policies**

1. Programming related to community centers, pools, and summer playgrounds will be decentralized to serve the specific needs within the respective service areas of such facilities and to foster cooperation with other community-based providers.
2. The distribution of programs will be planned in terms of the benefits, variety, and quality of programs offered. The specific types of programs may vary according to the needs or desires of the local population. In evaluating programs, the Department will consider factors related to amount of available space, staffing, hours, demographics, accessibility, participant satisfaction and how well specific program objectives are achieved.
3. Advisory councils will be empowered to become self-sustaining and financially healthy.
4. Recreation programming will be subsidized in those areas and for those activities where special conditions warrant and where community self-help and advisory councils require assistance to become self-sustaining and financially healthy.
5. The Department will continue to work with advisory councils to provide programs that are needed and desired by citizens and to improve parks and recreation within the respective areas of interest:
  - a. Associated Recreation Council (ARC)
  - b. Advisory Council for each Community Center
  - c. Advisory Council for each Community Swimming Pool (combined with Advisory Council for closest community center)
  - d. Advisory Council for each Small Craft Center
  - e. Teen Advisory Councils (where appropriate -associated with advisory council for respective community center, pool and Late Night Program)

- f. Advisory Council for each golf course and Citywide Golf Advisory Council
  - g. Citywide Advisory Councils for Sports, Senior Adults, Specialized Programs, Music, Tennis, and Golf
- 6. The Department will continue to collaborate with the Seattle School District and City's Comprehensive Child Care Program to provide before and after activities in community centers.
- 7. The Department will seek state Department of Health and Human Services' certification of daycare programs at community centers.
- 8. The importance of volunteers in advisory councils, coaching, and other activities which extend the role model, mentor, and programmatic efforts of Department staff will continue to be recognized and special efforts will be made to encourage volunteers.
- 9. Representation of diverse populations and interests will be aggressively pursued on advisory councils, including representation by populations with special needs. Community center advisory council's membership shall generally be geographically based.
- 10. Special needs populations for recreation programs will include youth, persons with disabilities, senior adults, low-income households, non-English-speaking persons and ethnic populations.
- 11. The concept of mainstreaming into programs and facilities wherever possible for populations with special needs will be continued but specialized programs serving a more singular population will also be considered when appropriate to provide access and culturally relevant opportunities for all.
- 12. The Department will continue to serve primarily those senior adults who are mobile, i.e., not restricted to their homes or a care center. Additional outreach for more frail seniors in Seattle Housing Authority and other low-income housing will be offered as appropriate in concert with other agencies serving senior adults.
- 13. The Department will continue working closely with the Human Services Department (HSD) to coordinate the functions and program offerings of the City's park and recreation system including before- and after-school opportunities for children and the HSD senior centers.
- 14. The intent and requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act will be met, including the use of TDD's and alternate media to facilitate communication.

15. Staffing of community centers will be made to reflect the population within the center's service area and will include assignment of bilingual staff where possible.
16. Basic arts programs will be offered at all community centers with a geographic distribution of centers designated as hubs offering more specialized programs and facilities in performing, visual, or literary arts.
17. The Department will continue and strengthen use of working relationships with non-profit arts organizations, particularly those using Department facilities. Examples of the latter include Pratt Fine Arts Center (City Art Works), Madrona Dance Studio, and new arts organizations at Sand Point.
18. Priority in scheduling for Department facilities will be given to clubs, leagues, or organizations serving diverse populations and/or with demonstrated out-reach efforts to involve a diverse population.
19. The effectiveness of existing facilities will be increased through combining programs or opportunities, at the same time; offering longer operating hours and/or a seven-day-per-week operation when budgets support adequate provision for operating costs; and, in the case of swimming pools, where mechanical systems can handle the additional operating hours.
20. Opportunities for instruction and tournaments at Department facilities will be balanced with maintaining reasonable amounts of access for general use.
21. Special events that celebrate the city's diversity promote neighborhood identity or cohesiveness, or increase environmental awareness will be encouraged.
22. The Department will encourage special events and other appropriate activities at park locations when they can increase a sense of community ownership and help make the park function as a more positive environment for public recreation.

## STEWARD OF PARK RESOURCES

### Acquisition & Development

#### Primary Roles & Responsibilities

1. Serve as Seattle's advocate for aggressively pursuing acquisition and preservation of open space and public shoreline property.
2. Work with neighborhoods to preserve or reclaim open space or green spaces and acquire or develop parks that reflect needs and priorities as identified in the City's Comprehensive Plan, sub-area plans, watershed plans, and neighborhood planning efforts.
3. Assist neighborhoods with improvement of school playgrounds for community recreational uses through the Grey to Green program.
4. Collaborate with Seattle Public Utilities in the restoration of urban creeks.
5. Restore and enhance natural habitat for wildlife in the City.
6. Work with others to provide landscaped open space connectors between areas where people live, work, learn, shop, or play, paying particular attention to park connectors.
7. Participate with resource agencies, schools, environmental organizations, and community-based groups to protect and conserve land and water and natural resource and wildlife areas where such areas exist, including areas that are not located on parkland.
8. Conserve and enhance the Olmsted planned and designed parks as key elements of Seattle's park legacy with its special aesthetic and design considerations, and pursue opportunities to expand the system with the same attention to the original vision.
9. Pursue improvements to existing parks in accordance with Department planning for major maintenance (capital replacement), park master plans, and neighborhood planning.
10. Provide special landscaping, signage, or other design elements that reflect the importance of boulevards and trails as a major link in the city's comprehensive open space system.

11. Coordinate planning for park resources with the State Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation, State resource agencies, King County, and other municipal park agencies in the region.
12. Work with the Department of Neighborhoods (DON) on the provision of P-patches, community gathering spaces, and on use of the Neighborhood Matching Fund and other fund sources as is appropriate to provide for park improvements.
13. Serve as an advocate and work with Seattle Transportation, Seattle Public Utilities, and others to expand Seattle's boulevards, trails, and green streets, and advocate increased consideration of open space and recreation as complements to transportation and utility functions. Work with CityDesign and others to identify opportunities for open space in the downtown area.

## **Secondary Roles & Responsibilities**

1. Provide assistance to the Strategic Planning Office in the open space provisions of the City's Comprehensive Plan and Sub-area Plans and in maintaining a citywide open space inventory.
2. Provide assistance to neighborhoods in their open space and park planning efforts.
3. Monitor private development proposals and work with affected neighborhoods, the Department of Design, Construction and Land Use (DCLU), and the private sector to protect park land, and, where desirable, urge consideration of opportunities for on-site open space or provision of compensatory off-site open space, provision of open space linkages, and plus the protection of park land and water areas.
4. Work with housing, education, transportation, utility, environmental resource, and other public agencies to preserve and upgrade the open space qualities of their lands and rights of way.

## **Policies**

1. The spirit and guiding principles of the original 1903 Olmsted Plan will be expanded through open space acquisitions, park development, and new or improved boulevards and trails to serve as park connectors.
2. Acquisition and voluntary preservation of real property to expand Seattle's inventory of open spaces and parklands will be actively pursued.

3. With the diminishing availability of natural open space, urban property will be reclaimed and converted to park purposes for small neighborhood parks and major regional parks.
4. Private properties subject to development within Greenspaces (greenbelts and natural areas) and other primarily natural areas such as stream corridors, wetlands or areas that mitigate and cleanse storm water discharges will be regarded as threatened or endangered, and efforts will be made to preserve such areas (refer to **Table 4: Distribution Guidelines for Open Space and Parks**, p. 47).
5. Preservation and acquisition of other open space will be planned on a geographic basis. The quantity of open space will be based upon the following considerations:
  - a. Distribution guidelines presented in **Table 4: Distribution Guidelines for Open Space and Parks** (p. 47).
  - b. Two categories of open space, one for Breathing Room and one for Neighborhood Park (Usable) Space are to be considered. For Breathing Room Space, total dedicated open space acreage on a citywide basis regardless of use, topography or access restrictions, but not including tideland or shoreland (submerged) park acreage shall be considered, as well as availability of public open space owned by others. For Neighborhood Park (Usable) Space, separate guidelines for primarily single-family areas and for higher density urban village areas shall be considered.
  - c. The open space functions of boulevard trails and green streets in meeting open space needs shall be recognized.
  - d. Unique characteristics of properties, user patterns (local, citywide and regional) and densities in the analysis of open space needs shall be considered.
  - e. Available opportunities, long-term budget impacts, and priorities as established in the City's Comprehensive Plan shall be considered in each potential acquisition.

In general, priority for the expansion of the open space network shall be given to areas of the City subject to population growth, including urban villages targeted for the largest share of residential growth and those areas not adequately served at present according to the population-based goals for open space.

6. The Urban Wildlife Habitat Plan shall be maintained and updated on a regular cycle. Grant monies shall be sought to realize important wildlife habitat acquisition and enhancement projects.
7. Public shoreline access will be regarded with the same degree of importance as open space and will be planned to ensure a reasonable amount of public access along each shoreline. A distribution guideline is

presented in **Table 4: Distribution Guidelines for Open Space and Parks** (p. 47). The variety, quality, and quantity of shoreline that should be part of the park system should also be considered in analysis of shoreline needs as should opportunities to enhance views of water and/or provide shoreline access by trails along the water.

8. The following methods may be used to preserve open space:
  - a. acquisition for park purposes through public funds and grants, donations, and community self-help;
  - b. acquisition of life estates, where appropriate, to protect current owners;
  - c. acquisition of voluntary conservation easements or similar mechanisms for preserving the open space qualities;
  - d. dedication or leasing from other public agencies, including the Seattle School District; and
9. If no other options are available, condemnation or removal of existing development will be pursued to preserve or re-create open space in highly developed areas lacking open space, although elimination of existing housing stock is generally to be avoided.
10. Aggressively pursue no-cost or low-cost methods to preserve critical publicly-owned open space that is not owned by the Department, recognizing the requirements of Washington state law in the acquisition of surplus utility property.
11. Consider site clean up, development, and maintenance implications of all open space acquisitions, including the possibilities of community self-help for both acquisition and maintenance through coordination with the Adopt-A-Park program.
12. Reclamation, restoration, and enhancement of green spaces, creeks, wetlands, and such shall be considered as appropriate tools to improve and increase the city's inventory of natural areas.
13. Pursue boulevard type improvements and the greening of Seattle's streets that will link neighborhoods to parks and other activity centers, but may not involve designation as a boulevard nor require a specified length and/or median.
14. Coordinate planning for boulevards and trails with planning for natural and historic resources.
15. Coordinate planning for open space and shoreline access with planning for transportation and street ends.



16. Integrate consideration of needs for P-Patches into other open space planning and preservation methods.
17. Coordinate planning and design for park improvements with other City departments, including reference to the Police Department's Crime Prevention through Environmental Design.
18. Work with the Department of Design, Construction and Land Use (DCLU) to ensure that land use code requirements are adequate to meet needs for on-site open space, provision of open space linkages, and protection of parklands and water features.
19. Encourage the private sector to join in providing adequate open space for residential developments and public open space for commercial developments.
20. Work with appropriate natural resource agencies on the restoration and enhancement of intertidal and nearshore habitat for the pacific salmon.

## STEWARD OF PARK RESOURCES

### Park Management & Environmental Stewardship

#### Primary Roles & Responsibilities

1. Protect and conserve parkland for the benefit of the public.
2. Maintain parklands for designated uses in an environmentally sensitive manner (conservation, sustainability, etc.) with attention to appearance and visitor safety.
3. Manage natural resource areas located on parklands in a sensitive manner.
4. Conserve and enhance wildlife habitat, watershed areas, and wetlands within the park system.
5. Manage shoreline resources to protect, and where possible, enhance habitat for salmon and other native fish and shellfish resources.
6. Conserve, restore, enhance, and promote the aesthetic, cultural and historic values and resources of Seattle's open space and park legacy.
7. Encourage the concept of sustainable living through management policies which reflect this approach to maintenance and operation.
8. Schedule use of park property consistent with the capacity of the landscape, natural environment, and associated park facilities as well as with good neighbor policies.
9. Serve a leadership role in the City's horticulture efforts, including water conservation, as well as practicing sound horticulture management of the park system.
10. Manage Seattle's park forests for the benefit of present and future generations by undertaking appropriate reforestation and forest community restoration projects.
11. Keep the parks, boulevards, trails, and facilities safe and secure for the enjoyment of all visitors, program participants, Department employees, and

volunteers through a partnership with the Seattle Police Department and the neighborhoods.

12. Ensure that the existing array of horticultural display gardens and facilities are maintained.

## **Secondary Roles & Responsibilities**

1. Support community efforts to conserve and restore creeks, watersheds, and other natural resources not located on park property. Work with local and state agencies as well as community groups in this effort.
2. Work with other agencies and private non-profit groups to increase the quality, size, and/or number of horticulture display gardens and facilities representative of the city's cultural diversity.
3. Allow group rentals of park areas and horticulture display gardens when provisions have been made to adequately protect public access and the park or garden.

## **Policies**

1. The use of city park property will be allowed for the following:
  - a. Authorized public park and recreation activities (consistent with park zoning, Park Code, park master plans, constitutionally protected rights, and applicable Department policies or procedures).
  - b. Seattle School District activities in accordance with a joint use agreement. Negotiate separate agreements for any leases or developments.
  - c. Activities or uses such as Family Centers that complement and support the primary recreation use.
  - d. Community or neighborhood groups for meetings or community recreation activities.
  - e. Authorized private concessionaire development and operations that support or enhance public park and recreation purposes. The public process and level of approval necessary depend on the type of development or activity.
2. Use of city park property for p-patches is allowed on a limited basis when the land has been specifically acquired for such purpose or when the p-patch meets the conditions of community gardens as established in written policies governing such use.

3. Use of city park property for utility facilities and/or rights of way is generally to be avoided except in limited instances when the use meets the conditions established in written policies governing such use and when adequate mitigation is provided.
4. Use of city park property for access to private homes or businesses is generally to be avoided and strictly controlled by the Department's revocable permit system.
5. The sale or divestment of parkland will be avoided, except in those circumstances where significant public benefit can be achieved through an exchange for a comparable park property within the same general area.
6. Existing boulevard rights of way will be protected against significant adverse encroachment by private uses or development. Landscaping will be allowed where consistent with the character of the boulevard.
7. Park Natural Resource Areas and Park Historic Resource Areas will be designated and managed with use limited as necessary to conserve natural and historic resources within parks, including the conservation and enhancement of wildlife habitat.
8. The Olmsted system and individual boulevards and parks comprising the system will be designated as Park Historic Resource Areas to be treated as a living legacy. Park features developed through the WPA will be given similar treatment. Procedures for adequately considering historic planning and design intent in current management practices will be part of the planning for future restoration and improvements.
9. A conservation and historic preservation ethic will be incorporated into staff training and procedures.
10. Strong departmental recycling, energy, and water conservation programs will be part of regular maintenance activities as well as operational policies.
11. Implementation of energy conservation measures will be coordinated with Seattle City Light, and water conservation measures, recycling, and drainage/runoff improvements with the Seattle Public Utilities.
12. Park maintenance will be based upon available funding and measurable maintenance objectives established for park categories as supplemented by special procedures for Park Natural and Historic Resource Areas.
13. Park maintenance will be supplemented to the maximum extent possible through Adopt-A-Park programs.

14. Tree management and maintenance will include considerations of tree health, long-term reforestation needs such as the role of trees in providing wildlife habitat and other environmental benefits, historical context, and tree impacts such as public safety, views, aesthetics, street or sidewalk damage, and maintenance requirements.
15. Park boulevards and trails will be managed and maintained in accordance with boulevard and trail agreements with Seattle Transportation.
16. Increased emphasis will be placed on maintenance of design intent, access and continuity, and visual character of the boulevards.
17. Woodland Park Zoological Gardens and The Seattle Aquarium will be managed and maintained as special facilities in accordance with master plans for each facility. Their management will be coordinated with overall goals and policies for Seattle's park and recreation system as well as with goals for the region.
18. The rights, safety, and enjoyment of persons on multi-use trails within parks will be protected with respect to all users.
19. In general, it will be desirable to maintain buffers of at least 25-50 feet between creeks or streams and unrelated park or recreation uses.
20. Partnerships will be pursued for operation and maintenance of Seattle's horticulture display gardens to reduce cost impacts while ensuring access for populations with special needs.
21. Sufficient, easily understood signage will be maintained to permit enforcement of the law within parks, while recognizing that signs are generally considered a visual intrusion within the desirable park environs.
22. Positive activities, programs, and concessions will be encouraged in parks with security problems.
23. Closing parks and facilities (including parking lots) temporarily for security purposes will be considered when the following conditions exist:
  - a. The problem is creating significant adverse impacts in terms of public health and safety and/or general good neighbor relations.
  - b. Other reasonable measures to solve the problem have been tried and failed.
  - c. There is strong community and police support for the closure.
  - d. Such closure will effectively resolve the problem.
24. Temporary park closures also may be necessary to protect a facility, the environment, and/or the public from an unsafe or damaging condition.

25. Park closures will be reviewed periodically for continuing need with an objective of reopening parks as soon as conditions permit.
26. Park horticulture practices and maintenance procedures will include consideration of the following:
  - a. Integration with natural and historic resource management.
  - b. Replanting with native species for wildlife habitat enhancement and/or drought-resistant plants for water conservation.
  - c. Other factors related to water conservation.
  - d. Pruning or thinning for safety, utility lines, and views from private property, consistent with more specific policies for such pruning or thinning.
  - e. Coordination with the community and Seattle police for security visibility (reference: Crime Prevention through Environmental Design).
27. Where watershed plans, stock supplementation programs, or other special efforts exist, management will be coordinated with appropriate groups and agencies.
28. Provide for forest community restoration in Seattle's parks and open spaces with appropriate, site-specific reforestation projects. Undertake restoration and enhancement of grasslands, wetlands and other natural landscape types as is appropriate. Involve the use of volunteers and other community organizations in such efforts.
29. Maintain the landscape value of ornamental park landscapes by a program of regular and ongoing landscape restoration involving appropriate plant replacement and other site restoration work.
30. Upgrade the park system's trails with regular and ongoing trail restoration work, involving the use of volunteers where appropriate.
31. The intent and the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act will be met through a planned program to provide access to a complete variety of open space, park and shoreline experiences.
32. The use of toxic or hazardous materials such as pesticides in the maintenance and operation of parks will be minimized to the extent possible.

# STEWARD OF PARK RESOURCES

## Environmental Education

### Primary Roles & Responsibilities

1. Teach a conservation ethic (ecology, natural history, park resources, etc.) through a well-coordinated, Department-wide environmental education effort. Included in such shall be environmental and historical interpretation, hands on methods, outdoor classroom experience, recreation programs, park maintenance practices, and the Adopt-A-Park Program.
2. Provide parks and other facilities that can serve as a venue for environmental education efforts by other agencies and non-profit organizations.
3. Provide outreach and support environmental education in the neighborhoods through community center programs, the Adopt-A-Park program, and other means to build stewardship of parklands as well as respect for the environment. Community centers shall be the focus of neighborhood based environmental education programs.
4. Provide for environmental education at Discovery Park, Carkeek Park, and Camp Long (and in the future at Seward Park) to support school programs.
5. Provide extensive environmental education programming at the Woodland Park Zoological Gardens and Seattle Aquarium to promote wildlife and habitat conservation in accordance with the respective master plans for each facility.
6. Facilitate horticulture interpretive programs, horticulture education, and related programs coordinated with the Seattle School District as well as other public agencies and organizations.

### Secondary Roles & Responsibilities

1. Present history through interpretive efforts, education, and related programs (generally to be incorporated into public information, interpretive displays, environmental and recreation programming efforts).

2. Support the City's P-Patch program by creating criteria and design guidelines for the development of P-Patches in appropriate parks.
3. Help support environmental education efforts by other departments and agencies.

## **Policies**

1. Environmental education efforts will emphasize:
  - a. How the environment works, i.e., the wonders of nature.
  - b. How different elements of the environment relate.
  - c. The need for conservation and environmental stewardship (local and global).
  - d. The historic and future roles of parks in conserving the environment.
  - e. What everyone can do to conserve (sustainable living).
2. Environmental education will be carefully coordinated among the various Departmental divisions, the City's Office for Education, and with other City departments and resource agencies offering environmental education and interpretive programming.
3. Environmental education will include:
  - a. A balance of outreach efforts as well as site-based programming.
  - b. Opportunities for all age groups.
  - c. Access for all.
  - d. A design that is both enjoyable and educational.
4. Docents and volunteers will be encouraged to supplement staff efforts.
5. The concept of outdoor classrooms, which use natural areas within open space and parks, will be promoted particularly by matching local area schools with local area parks or green spaces.
6. Teachers' guides and outreach program efforts will be a primary means to assist schools in most effectively using Department resources.
7. The use of signs and displays for environmental education will be limited primarily to securable or highly visible locations, with brochures and self-guided tours promoted in lieu of signs and displays.
8. P-patches will be allowed in parks where existing recreational uses are not displaced, can be done consistent with character of the park and where public features such as demonstration gardens or gathering spaces can be provided.



TABLE 2

## Distribution Guidelines for Community Centers & Indoor Pools

**NOTE** Evaluations using Distribution Guidelines that are based on service areas or distances will take into consideration physical barriers to access such as major arterials, water and topography. Service areas are only a starting point for analysis. The location of other similar providers or facilities must also be considered. Evaluations will include consideration of policies and priorities that are part of the City's adopted Comprehensive Plan. Priority will be given to addition of new centers and improvement of existing centers in underserved areas of the city undergoing population growth, particularly those with expected and actual growth in urban center and urban village locations.

### Community Centers

**DEFINITION** Approximately 20,000 square feet of indoor space, including a balanced combination of multi-purpose activity and gymnasium space. Newer centers at Bitter Lake, Garfield, and Delridge are the desired examples, although the types of spaces or design may vary with local needs and wants. The need for a second gymnasium or other programmable space could increase the size of a center beyond 20,000 square feet. Ideally, the center should be sited in a campus environment with sufficient outdoor recreation space and facilities to support center programs. Co-location with Seattle School District facilities, compatible public service agencies or other community-based program providers will be considered where appropriate. In certain higher population density areas of the City, location in a campus environment with outdoor facilities may not be possible due to existing urban development.

**DESIRABLE** A community center shall be located within one mile of every Seattle household as defined above and/or 1 full service center to serve a residential population of 15,000-20,000 people. Each Urban Center of the City shall be served by a center.

**ACCEPTABLE** A community center should be provided within 1-1/2 miles of every Seattle household. Satellite facilities, or less than full-service facilities, will be considered to provide for community gathering places and to accommodate certain program activities, where conditions warrant. In order to control the number of new city facilities, programs may be provided in facilities owned by others in some cases.

## Indoor Community Pools

- DEFINITION** A multi-program swimming pool with provisions for concurrent lap swimming, family and youth play, instruction, physical rehabilitation and other complementary aquatic activities is desirable. A pool size somewhat larger than the existing Helene Madison Pool (a 25-yard, 6-lane pool) is envisioned. Existing Seattle pools may be retrofitted to partially achieve this concept in the future. Ideally, new pools are to be sited at or near community centers and Seattle School District high schools.
- DESIRABLE** An indoor swimming pool shall be provided within 2 miles of every Seattle household and/or 1 swimming pool to serve a population of 40,000-50,000 residents.
- ACCEPTABLE** An indoor swimming pool shall be provided within 2-1/2 miles of every Seattle household. The availability of pools accessible to the public and provided by others (e.g., YMCA, etc.) will be considered when determining priorities for new City pools.

TABLE 3

## Distribution Guidelines for Park & Recreation Facilities

**NOTE** Evaluations using Distribution Guidelines that are based on service areas or distances will take into consideration physical barriers to access such as major arterials, water and topography. Service areas are only a starting point for analysis. The location of other similar providers or facilities must be considered. Evaluation will also include consideration of policies and priorities in the City's adopted Comprehensive Plan. In general, priority will be given to adding park amenities in underserved areas of the City undergoing population growth, particularly those with expected and actual growth in urban center and urban village locations.

### Boulevards

New boulevards will be developed in accordance with the Seattle Comprehensive Transportation Plan, with undesignated boulevard treatment or greening of streets pursued where feasible and desired by local communities (and as coordinated with Seattle Transportation).

### Trails

New multi-use trails will be developed in accordance with an Urban Trails Plan, with a goal of having an interconnected system of primary and secondary trails throughout the city (and as coordinated with Seattle Transportation) as well as a variety of trails within all appropriate parks and green spaces.

### Park Restrooms

Park restrooms are desirable in conjunction with larger parks, and normally only in those parks serving scheduled/programmed activities or those with a significant number of drop-in users.

### Children's Play Areas

A neighborhood or community center children's play area is desirable within one-half mile of households in areas with 100 to 200 resident

children ages 2 to 11 and/or in areas with several day cares/preschools (and as coordinated with Seattle School District). A destination or larger than normal children's play area is desirable at selected major urban parks.

## **Wading Pools and Water Features**

A wading pool or water feature is desirable within one to two miles of households in areas with 200 to 500 resident children ages 2 to 11. Priority for wading pool or water feature development shall be given to Summer Playground Program sites. Each sector of the City should have at least one wading pool or water feature. New facilities will normally be water spray features due to increasing costs associated with regulations governing traditional wading pools.

## **Soccer Fields**

A soccer field is desirable within one to two miles of all Seattle households. A sufficient quantity of fields should be provided on a citywide basis to meet scheduling needs (and as coordinated with Seattle School District and other program providers). Most fields will be natural turf, but a selected number of fields shall be maintained as all-weather surfaces to accommodate intensive levels of play.

## **Football Fields**

A turf football field is desirable within areas with youth football programs. A sufficient quantity of fields should be provided on a citywide to meet scheduling needs (and as coordinated with Seattle School District and other program providers).

## **Softball/Youth Baseball Fields**

A turf softball/youth baseball field (60'basepaths) is desirable within 1 to 2 miles of all Seattle households. A sufficient quantity of fields shall be provided on a citywide basis to meet scheduling needs (and as coordinated with Seattle School District and other program providers).

## **Senior Baseball**

A limited number of turf senior baseball fields (90' basepaths) are desirable citywide with sufficient quantity to meet scheduling needs (and as coordinated with Seattle School District and other program providers).

## **Ultimate Frisbee, Rugby and Cricket Fields**

A limited number of turf fields suitable for these sports are desirable on a citywide basis to meet scheduling needs. Other new field sports will be accommodated as demand arises.

## **Track and Field Event Facilities**

A track and field facility is desirable in each sector of the city (and as coordinated with Seattle School District).

## **Volleyball Courts**

Suitable turf or sand surface space for 4 to 8 courts is desirable in each sector of the City, but such spaces shall not necessarily be designated solely for volleyball).

## **Tennis Courts**

One 8-10 court indoor tennis complex is desirable in north and south Seattle. Approximately four to six 6-court outdoor tennis complexes are desirable distributed throughout the city. A 4-court outdoor tennis complex is desirable at or near each community center. Existing neighborhood tennis courts will be maintained where feasible and new neighborhood courts sited only in response to strong community support.

## **Outdoor Basketball Courts**

A full or half court is desirable within 1 mile of Seattle households in areas with 200 to 500 resident youth and/or young adults.

## **Picnic Facilities**

At least 1 or 2 scheduled group picnic shelters are desirable in each sector with drop-in picnic tables distributed in appropriate park areas throughout the city.

## **Dog Off-leash Areas**

A dog off-leash area is desirable in each sector of the city. Such areas should be contained by fencing. Possible improvements include pathways, benches, kiosks, drinking fountains and other park furniture appropriate to the site. Other public properties besides parklands will be considered for future off-leash areas to avoid conversion of existing park spaces to dog off-leash areas.

## **Boat Ramps**

At least 8 to 10 boat ramps are desirable distributed citywide to provide launching opportunities on both fresh water and salt water (and as coordinated with Port of Seattle and Seattle Transportation).

## **Hand Carry Boat Launches**

At least one hand carry, non-motorized boat launch is desirable along every 2 miles of Seattle's shorelines.

## **Fishing Piers**

Fishing piers are desirable in locations where conditions permit a reasonable opportunity to catch fish, with the number of piers based upon demand and available space (and as coordinated with natural resource agencies and the Port of Seattle).

## **Outdoor Lifeguarded Beaches**

Lifeguarded beaches will be provided at selected parks on Lake Washington and at Green Lake only, with no new facilities anticipated.

## **Small Craft Facilities**

One Department-owned facility exists in the north end (Green Lake) and one in the south end (Mount Baker). Additional facilities will be considered only if non-profit organizations can significantly offset costs.

## **Golf**

Three existing 18-27 hole golf courses (Jackson, Jefferson, West Seattle), one executive length course (Interbay) and one pitch and putt (Green Lake) will be maintained and upgraded in accordance with adopted master plans. No additional courses within the city are anticipated.

TABLE 4

## Distribution Guidelines for Open Space & Parks

**NOTE** Evaluations using Distribution Guidelines that are based on service areas or distances will take into consideration physical barriers to access such as major arterials, water and topography. Service areas are only a starting point for analysis. The location of other similar spaces owned by others must also be considered. Evaluation will include consideration of policies and priorities which are part of the City's adopted Comprehensive Plan.

### Breathing Room or Total Open Space

**DEFINITION** Combined acreage of all dedicated open spaces (parks, greenspaces, trails, and boulevards,) but not including tidelands and shorelands (submerged park lands.)

**DESIRABLE** One acre per 100 residents of population

**ACCEPTABLE** One-third acre per 100 resident population or community approved offset to lack of Breathing Room open space.

**OFFSETS** School grounds, green streets, boulevard, trail, etc.

### Neighborhood Park or Usable Open Space

#### Primarily Single-family Residential Areas

**DEFINITION** Relatively level and open, easily accessible, primarily green open space available for drop-in use (can be part of larger citywide park space).

**DESIRABLE** One-half acre within 1/2 mile of Seattle households in primarily single-family areas.

**ACCEPTABLE** One-half acre within 1 mile or community approved offset to lack of usable open space.

**OFFSETS** School grounds, green streets, recreation facility, boulevard, trail, etc.



## **Neighborhood Park or Usable Open Space**

### **Urban Village**

- DEFINITION** Publicly owned or dedicated open space that is easily accessible and intended to serve the immediate urban village. This encompasses various types of open space for passive enjoyment as well as activity and includes green areas and hard-surfaced urban plazas, street parks, and pocket parks. Dedicated open spaces should be at least 10,000 square feet in size.
- DESIRABLE** One acre of open space per 1,000 households. One-quarter acre within 1/8 mile of all locations in urban villages density areas. One acre of urban open space per 10,000 jobs in the Downtown Urban Core.
- ACCEPTABLE** One-quarter acre within 1/2 mile or community approved offset to lack of usable park space.
- OFFSETS** School grounds, recreation facility, green streets, boulevard, and trail.

## **Greenspaces**

- DEFINITION** Areas designated for preservation because of their natural or ecological qualities and their potential to contribute to an interconnected open space system.
- DESIRABLE** Preserve such areas where they meet the designation criteria established in the Greenspaces Policies. Greenspaces are counted as breathing room, but such areas should be preserved regardless of relationship to distribution guidelines and existing amounts of open space.

## **Public Shoreline Access**

- DEFINITION** Access to the water's edge that includes at least 40 lineal feet of shoreline and is either publicly owned or dedicated by Shoreline Management permit condition.
- DESIRABLE** At least one public access point, a minimum of 40 feet wide, for at least every one-half mile of Seattle shoreline.
- ACCEPTABLE** At least one public access point, a minimum of 40 feet wide, for every one mile of Seattle shoreline or community approved offset to lack of public shoreline access.
- OFFSETS** Shoreline viewpoints, shoreline trails, etc.

## Notes

1. Planning for open space must be coordinated both regionally and within the City. This includes working with such agencies as Department of Neighborhoods, the Strategic Planning Office, Seattle Transportation, Seattle Public Utilities, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Port of Seattle.
2. A variety of shoreline experiences are desirable. The relative amounts of different types of shoreline need to be considered in establishing priorities for future acquisitions and development.

# **6 - Y E A R   A C T I O N P L A N 2 0 0 0 – 2 0 0 6**

## **Introduction**

Seattle's Parks and Recreation Plan 2000 is focused on a new 6-Year Action Plan and is based, to a substantial degree, upon various planning activities that have occurred since the 1993 effort. These planning activities, separately adopted by the Seattle City Council, include the Urban Wildlife Habitat Plan (Resolution 28946), the Joint School/Parks Athletic Development Program (Resolution 29681), plans for substantial new park development at Magnuson Park and the old Sand Point Navy base as portrayed in the Magnuson Park Concept Design (Resolution 30063, et al.), the ongoing preparation and updating of the Major Maintenance Plan, watershed plans, and the review and approval of thirty-eight separate plans prepared by individual neighborhoods under the guidance of the Department of Neighborhoods and recognized by Council by resolution. As such, this Update reflects an assembly of previously established policy direction already set for the Department of Parks and Recreation in recent years. The following 6-year plan reflects the unmet recommendations of the 1993 COMPLAN as well as the recommendations included in these other recent planning efforts.

A series of three public meetings, presentations to the Board of Park Commissioners and the Seattle Planning Commission, and a hearing before the Board of Park Commissioners have been held as part of the preparation of this plan. Further review and another public hearing before the Seattle City Council was held before the plan was adopted per Resolution 30181 on June 19, 2000. The plan can be revised and updated in the future, as is necessary to keep consistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan and to reflect changes in the City's Capital Improvement Program. A new plan should be prepared in 2003 after the 2000 census data is available to allow a more detailed park, recreation and open space needs analysis on a citywide as well as neighborhood scale.

The 6-Year Action Plan presents specific, short-term activities necessary to move towards realization of the long-term Vision for the Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation. The Plan is organized into two major sections: Partnership for Recreation and Steward of Park Resources. These two sections are further divided into functional areas. Each functional area has an **Action Plan** that outlines specific activities the Department will undertake during the next six years with available or expected funding, staffing and other resources. Where the term consider is used in certain action items, additional resources or further study may be needed before committing to such an activity.

The actions outlined in the 6-Year Action Plan relate to how the park and recreation system is managed on a citywide basis as well as related to the provision of services in a particular geographic area. Various capital projects are noted in the 6-Year Plan to meet system needs. To a large degree, the projects noted are those that are already funded in the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP), or are unfunded at present but are recognized in the Department's Major Maintenance Plan. Also noted are certain neighborhood-related projects that are either already wholly or partially funded, or that are unfunded at present but represent priority projects within neighborhood work plans. In general, the actions do not include specific recommendations for new recreation or environmental education programs. Decisions concerning such programs are usually made on a decentralized basis, such as through advisory councils, on an annual basis through the Department's budget, and through the availability of grants.

The neighborhood plans include recommendations for a twenty-year period. While all of those recommendations are listed in Appendix E, not all were included in the Six-year Action Plan. The criteria used to select neighborhood plan recommendations for inclusion in the Six-year Action Plan were:

- Projects in underserved areas;
- Projects to replace/upgrade/improve existing outdated or substandard facilities;
- Priority projects in neighborhood plans;
- Projects that were already funded in the City's CIP or are recognized for funding in the Department's Major Maintenance Plan.

Those recommendations that were not included and specifically mentioned in the Action Plan may still be implemented, but over a longer time frame.

It must be noted that capital projects require special funding to implement. In general, capital improvements cannot be implemented through the operating budget. It is generally assumed that the City's Cumulative Reserve Fund (CRF) will continue to be the primary financial resource that

will allow the Department to undertake major maintenance projects to sustain the park system. In recent years, the fund has provided for approximately \$8,000,000 to \$9,000,000 annually for such work. In addition, the City's Neighborhood Matching Fund (NMF) is available to finance small to medium sized citizen-initiated parks improvement projects that range to as much as \$300,000. Since 1989, the NMF has contributed over \$5.1 million for 239 park projects. In 1999, the NMF alone funded 37 projects with a net worth of \$1.19 million of improvements. Several projects remain to be accomplished in the Shoreline Park Improvement Fund and the 1999 Community Center Levy is dedicated to community center projects at Sand Point, Northgate, Jefferson, Southwest, High Point, Van Asselt, and downtown in the International District and Belltown.

Beyond the funds noted above, and several grant sources, additional funding must be sought to provide large-scale park improvements. A local funding measure, such as a levy or bond issue, may be able to provide a substantial new source of funding that may allow certain high priority projects to be pursued in the next six years.

It should be noted that funding decisions are made in the context of the City's biennial budget process in which the Mayor proposes policy direction and the City Council ultimately adopts the budget to authorize the operations and maintenance of the park system as well as capital improvements to it. Policy direction is by its nature fluid and dynamic in order to respond to economic variables and the changing needs of the city.

At this time the Pro Parks citizens committee has recommended that a \$200 million levy to fund parks, recreation and open space be placed on the ballot this fall. This proposal is being reviewed by the Mayor and City Council to determine whether it should be modified and whether it should be placed on the ballot. Should such a levy be placed on the ballot and approved by the voters, \$25 million would be provided each year for a total of eight years to finance priority projects recommended by the committee. Many of the projects recommended are from neighborhood plans and directly respond to the criteria noted above. Appendix F is a listing of the proposed Pro Parks levy package.

## PARTNER FOR RECREATION

### Development of Park & Recreation Facilities

#### General

Capital improvements related to recreation facilities have been identified based upon distribution guidelines, citywide analysis, actual scheduling requests, and the public process for Seattle's Parks and Recreation Plan 2000. Some of the needs can possibly be met through community self-help projects, while others will require a more significant capital project. This listing is not intended to exclude projects that may be identified in the future as the result of citizens or staff ideas, neighborhood planning and work by other agencies.

- DPRF-G1** Pursue funding for larger projects from a future bond issue, levy, or local park authority. Develop partnerships with the Seattle School District, Seattle Community Colleges and others to develop recreational facilities.
- DPRF-G2** Undertake limited or smaller scale development actions or major maintenance items by pursuing a variety of fund sources, including the Cumulative Reserve Fund (CRF), Neighborhood Matching Fund (NMF), available grants and self-help.
- DPRF-G3** Recognize neighborhood plan recommendations as a guide for investment of resources in development of park, open space, and recreation facilities. Support the development and implementation of neighborhood planning sector work plans as a means of setting priorities for implementation of plan recommendations.
- DPRF-G4** Implement the Grey to Green program to provide for improved school grounds that provide additional recreational opportunities for schools and neighborhoods.

#### Arts and Cultural Facilities

- AC1** Provide priority roofing, mechanical, and heating-ventilation major maintenance projects at the existing arts and cultural facilities: Langston Hughes Cultural Arts Center, Bathhouse Theatre, Seward Park Art Studio, Pratt Fine Arts Center, Madrona Dance Studio and the Alki Bathhouse Arts Studio.

- AC2** Provide for improvements to Myrtle Edwards Park to complement the proposed Seattle Art Museum Olympic Sculpture Garden.
- AC3** Develop a strategic arts and cultural facilities and programs plan for the Department.
- AC4** Develop Sand Point as an arts and culture venue.

## **Community Centers**

- CC1** Implement the new 1999 Community Center Levy to provide a replacement of the Yesler Community Center; expansions of the Jefferson, Southwest, High Point, Van Asselt Community Centers; improvements to Building 47 at Sand Point; a new community center in the Northgate area, and new downtown community centers for Belltown and the International District.
- CC2** Support the development of the Ballard and Lake City Civic Centers.
- CC3** Undertake limited improvements at the old Garfield, Bitter Lake, and Meadowbrook Community Centers to provide Teen Life Centers. Upgrade the old Golden Gardens Bathhouse to serve as a teen center. Consider the expansion of this concept to other selected community centers in Southeast and at/near the Southwest Community Center.
- CC4** Begin planning for a future community center to better serve the Wallingford and Fremont areas, replace the aging Lake City Community Center and remodel and expand the Alki, Laurelhurst, and Montlake Community Centers.
- CC5** Continue to maintain and modernize existing community centers throughout Seattle. In particular, provide for ADA accessibility improvements and other work to meet current recreational needs. Review existing recreational uses and guidelines relative to centers to evaluate, prioritize and plan the need for improvements to older facilities such as Rainier Beach, Queen Anne, Magnolia, Loyal Heights and others.
- CC6** Consider improvements to smaller park facilities, such as selected shelterhouses, to provide for community gathering spaces and as satellite program sites.

## **Indoor & Outdoor Swimming Pools**

- SP1** Implement priority major maintenance projects identified in recent major maintenance studies for swimming pools. Attention should be given to

replacement of plaster pool shell linings, upgrading or replacement of mechanical systems, correction of moisture-caused structural deterioration, and roofing systems.

- SP2** Provide repairs and minor improvements to make the swimming pool in Building 47 at Sand Point operational for public use.
- SP3** Implement priority recommendations from a recent swimming pool leisure amenity study to improve the attractiveness and program flexibility at Helene Madison and Medgar Evers Pools as demonstration projects.
- SP4** Upgrade existing swimming pool facilities to make them more accessible, particularly changing facilities for persons with disabilities and for families.
- SP5** Initiate planning for a new indoor swimming pool to serve the North Beacon Hill–Rainier Valley area. Should Jefferson Park be considered as a site for such, coordinate the pool study with the plan for the park.
- SP6** Participate in regionally based discussions and evaluations with other agencies and entities to explore the need for a new 50-meter indoor swimming pool.
- SP7** Continue to evaluate the seasonal demand for outdoor swimming pools (Colman and Mounger) and consider development of additional outdoor pools.

## **Sportsfields**

- SF1** Construct large-scale sportsfield major maintenance projects at Genessee, Judkins and Riverview Playfields. (Projects will be designed in 2000).
- SF2** Complete the sports meadow at Magnuson Park (design in 2000).
- SF3** Develop new sportsfields at Sand Point per the 1999 Magnuson Park Concept Design, and provide facilities for softball, baseball, soccer, rugby, and track and field. Provide floodlighting on such fields per the plan.
- SF4** Plan for future larger scale sportsfield renovations involving irrigation and drainage system replacement and turf renovation at priority sites (beyond those noted above) such as Meadowbrook, West Queen Anne, Lincoln Park, Maplewood Playfield, and others.
- SF5** Pursue a variety of small-scale sportsfield improvement or major maintenance projects as funding is available to provide for backstop and



wing fence replacement, and limited drainage, irrigation, and turf renovation.

- SF6** Assist the School District, as is appropriate, to implement their current athletic field projects at Sealth, Rainier Beach, Nathan Hale/Summit, and Ingraham High Schools.
- SF7** Assist the School District in obtaining future funding for additional sportsfield improvements at Roosevelt, Franklin, and Garfield High Schools, as well as others.
- SF8** Consider lease and improvement of selected school fields, such as Whitman, Wilson-Pacific, Cooper-Boren, Decatur, Madison, Monroe and others.
- SF9** Consider the conversion of selected fields to artificial turf to increase scheduling capacity at locations such as the Lower Woodland baseball field, and Brighton and Loyal Heights Playfields.
- SF10** Continue to evaluate, monitor and develop low-water use sportsfield surface alternatives.
- SF11** Continue to pursue implementation of other sportsfield improvements consistent with the Joint School/Parks Athletic Development Program. (Note higher priority elements are noted above in actions SF3 and SF6. Other school field improvements are noted in SF8.) Other potential park field improvements include work at West Seattle Stadium, Montlake and Cleveland Playfields, and a future field development at a new park at Smith Cove.
- SF12** Update the Joint Athletic Field Development Program. Consider improvements to selected fields (such as use of synthetic turf and floodlighting) to increase scheduling capacity, but only where adverse impacts as identified in public involvement processes can be mitigated.

## **Children's Play Areas**

- PA1** Complete planned play area redevelopment or improvements at Meadowbrook, Rogers, Froula, Meridian, View Ridge, Madrona, Lakewood, Hutchinson, Fairmount Park, South Park, and E.C. Hughes Playfields/Playgrounds (to be designed in 2000).
- PA2** Undertake additional play area redevelopment at Golden Gardens Park, Wallingford Playfield, Ravenna-Eckstein Community Center, Lawton Park,

Pratt Park, Beacon Hill Playground, Lakeridge Playground, and Beer Sheva Park.

- PA3** Redevelop the Jefferson Park play area in consort with the planned community center expansion (Planning in 2000, Design in 2001). Work with interested community members on grants to possibly expand the proposed 6000 SF play area to 8000 SF.
- PA4** Develop a destination play area at Seward Park in the upper picnic area.
- PA5** Consider development of a covered play area, involving improvements to the existing Play Barn at Gas Works Park.
- PA6** Undertake additional indoor play areas at selected community centers, as has been done at Green Lake and Rainier Community Centers in recent years.

## **Children's Play Water Features**

- WF1** Add two new children's play water features (similar to the ones at Pratt and Judkins Parks) at parks in Southeast Seattle and one at Gas Works Park. Water conservation/re-use and treatment solutions shall be addressed in any renovation or replacement of water play features.

## **Outdoor Basketball Courts**

- BC1** Provide for the regular renovation of existing basketball courts by replacing standards and the court surfacing at regular intervals.
- BC2** Add new outdoor basketball courts at selected sites where space is available and such use is appropriate.
- BC3** Consider development of a covered basketball court similar to the basketball pavilion at Pratt Park at selected sites, such as Rainier Beach Playfield.
- BC4** Work with schools and communities to improve or increase basketball facilities on school properties.

## **Tennis Courts**

- TC1** Pursue systematic resurfacing of existing tennis courts with more significant substructure repair where necessary. Replace fencing and net standards on an as needed basis.
- TC2** Replace the existing Jefferson Park tennis courts in consort with the planned expansion of the Jefferson Park Community Center if courts are displaced by the new gymnasium. If possible, develop a four-court complex, as at other community centers, if sufficient land is available after the north Beacon Hill reservoir is decommissioned.
- TC3** Develop an indoor tennis facility at Sand Point per the 1999 Magnuson Park Concept Design.
- TC4** Replace the outdoor tennis courts at Magnuson Park per the 1999 Magnuson Park Concept Design.
- TC5** Complete the development of the Seattle Tennis Center with additional outdoor courts per the original master plan.
- TC6** Provide for replacement of the former Ballard Playground tennis courts (lost due to community center redevelopment in 1990) if a suitable site is identified.
- TC7** Continue to maintain and make minor improvements at the existing Lower Woodland Park outdoor tennis complex.

## **Volleyball Courts**

- VC1** Construct six volleyball courts; two courts each at Colman Pool, Seward Beach and Matthews Beach.

## **Picnic Facilities (scheduled picnic facilities only)**

- PF1** Develop new picnic facilities as suggested at Matthews Beach and Madison Parks.

## **Dog Off-leash Areas**

- OLA1** Upgrade the Magnuson Park off-leash area to provide improved pathways and park furniture. Correct drainage problems and improve fencing.

- OLA2** Improve the Westcrest Park off-leash area consistent with current plans for park improvement.
- OLA3** Seek a new off-leash area to replace the existing Volunteer Park off-leash area in a manner consistent with Ordinance 118727. If the area under I-5 in Eastlake is considered, do so only in conjunction with a community planning effort for the entire area with consideration of other proposed uses.
- OLA4** Continue to evaluate potential locations for additional off-leash areas, including those identified in Ordinance 118727 and in neighborhood plans.

## **Horseshoe Facilities**

- HF1** Consider adding horseshoe facilities in areas with concentrations of seniors.

## **Boat Launch Facilities**

- BL1** Improve capacity at existing ramps through such methods as providing wave protection during rough weather to increase usability, lengthening floats, creating tie-down areas, reconfiguring circulation and parking, and increasing peak period parking, where possible.
- BL2** Maintain designated locations for hand-carried small craft launch sites throughout the park system.
- BL3** Explore strategies for addressing parking in and around Atlantic Street Boat Ramp.

## **Fishing Piers**

- FP1** Improve existing fishing piers to promote accessibility and to reduce shading of nearshore fish habitat.

## **Outdoor Lifeguarded Beaches**

- SB1** Improve changing room/shower room facilities at West Green Lake beach.
- SB2** Add outdoor showers at all swimming beaches.
- SB2** Consider installation of outdoor shower for skindivers at Alki Beach and Golden Gardens parks.

## **Small Craft Facilities**

- SC1** Improve existing small craft centers at Green Lake and Mount Baker to improve boat storage, add showers and lockers, improve instruction/meeting rooms, improve storage of recreations program equipment, and potentially add conditioning facilities.
- SC2** Develop sailing facility with dry storage on Pontiac Bay in conjunction with private non-profit organization per the Sand Point concept design.

## **Golf**

- GF1** Work with Seattle Golf (formerly Municipal Golf of Seattle) to implement various priority improvements per the Mayor and Council approved golf 1991 Master Plans for Jackson, Jefferson, and West Seattle Golf Courses. Work will include renovation and replacement of tees, greens, irrigation systems, and improvements to service/cart paths, and the like. Provide for pathway improvements on the periphery of the Jefferson Park Golf Course.
- GF2** Consider development of a short course at West Seattle, to the south of the existing 18-hole course, for golf instruction.
- GF3** Consider improvements at the Green Lake pitch-and-putt course to make it more attractive and useable for a longer season. Work with community to identify desired improvements and develop RFP for private operator/developer to operate and maintain facility.
- GF4** Redevelop maintenance facilities at Jefferson Park and at West Seattle Golf.
- GF5** Consider addition of a driving range at the West Seattle and Jackson golf courses per 1991 master plan.
- GF6** Work with Seattle Public Utilities and affected communities on creek restoration projects that affect golf course property at West Seattle and Jackson Park Golf Courses.

## **Special Event Facilities**

- SE1** Restore electrical service and lighting at Westlake Park.
- SE2** Upgrade electrical service to the Seward Park amphitheater.

- SE3** Upgrade utilities (electricity, water, etc.) and park landscape designs in other selected parks used for major annual events.

## **Maintenance Facilities**

- MF1** Relocate the Department's Building Maintenance Shops and Customer Service (warehouse, etc.) functions from the existing Roy Street facility to a new, centrally located facility. Sell the Roy Street Shops as part of the effort to acquire new facilities.
- MF2** Relocate the downtown Park Resources crew from Volunteer Park to a new facility closer to the downtown area.
- MF3** Replace the old Volunteer Park cottage with appropriate maintenance facilities for the Conservatory and Volunteer Park Parks Resources crews.
- MF4** Upgrade or replace the Jefferson Park Golf Course and West Seattle Golf maintenance facilities (see Golf section of Action Plan).

## **Comfort Stations**

- CS1** Continue to refurbish comfort stations in an effort to make them ADA accessible and easier to keep clean through addition of harder surfaces that do not hold graffiti or odors.
- CS2** Focus renovation of comfort stations on those with a combination of heavy use and programs, such as summer day camp, beach, picnic areas, high tourist use, athletic fields and off-leash areas.
- CS3** Increase security improvements, such as sight lines to and into the buildings, to reduce the occurrence of vandalism and other undesirable activities.
- CS4** Include community initiated art projects at comfort stations, in an effort to improve the aesthetics and decrease vandalism.
- CS5** Consider use of alternative designs for smaller comfort station facilities where new restrooms are needed.

## **Kiosks**

- K1** Install standardized kiosks to be used in specific park sites to improve information delivery in outdoor settings.

## **The Seattle Aquarium and Woodland Park Zoo**

**NOTE** The Seattle Aquarium and Woodland Park Zoo are part of Seattle's park system but operate somewhat differently from other divisions in the Department. For now, the Aquarium and Zoo will remain as divisions of the Department reporting to the Superintendent. The Aquarium and Zoological Gardens are considered special facilities with the potential for major private donor support and possible public/private management options of interest to the public. The Aquarium and Zoo will continue to closely interact with the Department's overall environmental education effort and support other divisions with their expertise.

### **The Seattle Aquarium**

During the next 6 years, work on the development of an expanded Aquarium consistent with the adopted Master Plan will continue. The Aquarium will continue to enhance its role in educating the public regarding preservation of salmon and their habitat in light of their listing as endangered under the Endangered Species Act.

- SA1** Based on the Master Plan for the Seattle Aquarium and the Central Waterfront and a 1998 Implementation Plan for such, proceed with programming, schematic design and environmental review for the Pacific Northwest Aquarium in collaboration with the Seattle Aquarium Society.
- SA2** Complete negotiation and approval process for a Memorandum of Understanding with the Seattle Aquarium Society defining the City's intended level of financial support for the development of the Pacific Northwest Aquarium and outlining the role of SEAS in the development process and the requirements for transition to non-profit governance of the facility.
- SA3** Initiate steps to secure funding for the Pacific Northwest Aquarium with the Seattle Aquarium Society and proceed with design of the new facility.
- SA4** Proceed with design of Waterfront Park and Pier 59 as public open space as outlined in the Master Plan for the Central Waterfront.

### **Woodland Park Zoological Gardens**

During the next 6 years, ongoing improvements to the Woodland Park Zoo and its master planning process will continue. The Zoo will continue to focus on science based K-12 environmental education programs, mobile

outreach, research programs and its support of field conservation. Education facilities and interpretive elements will be added in accordance with the Zoo's long-range plans.

- WPZ1** Update the long-range master plan and complete an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on such.
- WPZ2** Define a phased implementation program and continue private and public fundraising.
- WPZ3** Construct the African Gateway Village and entry portals to major exhibit zones to enhance visitor orientation and way-finding.
- WPZ4** Complete construction drawings for a new jaguar exhibit and the Discovery Village. Begin construction of the jaguar exhibit in 2001 and the Discovery Village in 2002, if funding is available.
- WPZ5** Integrate interpretive and conservation education elements within new exhibits for animals such as jaguars and hyenas that are still housed in facilities constructed in 1951.
- WPZ6** Continue to expand education, conservation and outreach programs consistent with the recommendations of Zoo Commission II.
- WPZ7** Continue collaboration with other divisions of the Department, including support for interpretive and education efforts.
- WPZ8** Begin planning for the off-site conservation and breeding facility purchased with 1985 zoo bonds



## PARTNER FOR RECREATION

### Management & Maintenance of Park Facilities

#### General

Major maintenance of park and recreation facilities are identified based upon citywide analyses that consider safety and operations need, response to citizen requests, and the COMPLAN public process. Some of the needs can possibly be met through community self-help projects, while others will require more significant projects. Management and routine maintenance of park and recreation facilities is a result of allocating limited staff and other resources based on need. This listing is not intended to exclude projects that may be identified in the future as the result of citizen or staff ideas, neighborhood planning and work by other agencies.

- MMF-G1** Pursue ongoing funding to address major maintenance from the Cumulative Reserve Fund, a future bond issue or levy.
- MMF-G2** Undertake limited or smaller scale major maintenance items by pursuing a variety of fund sources, including the Cumulative Reserve Fund (CRF), Neighborhood Matching Fund (NMF), available grants and self-help.
- MMF-G3** Continue to support community identified small-scale maintenance needs with the Neighborhood Response Fund program.
- MMF-G4** Pursue Maintenance Facility relocation from the current Roy Street location.
- MMF-G5** Work with neighborhood planning stewardship groups and the Department of Neighborhoods to identify and implement Neighborhood Plan Implementation CRF projects. Funded projects for 1999-2000 include (1999) Gilman ballfield improvements, North Acres Park safety improvements, South Lake Union Naval Reserve property maintenance, Pratt Park renovation, Hiawatha Playfield landscape restoration, (2000) Green Lake field #1 improvements, Victory Heights tennis court repair, Froula Park play equipment rehabilitation, Rogers Playfield drainage design, Roxhill Park regrading and irrigation, and Jefferson Park fence replacement.
- MMF-G6** Consider neighborhood plan recommendations as a guide for investment of resources in development of park, open space, and recreation facilities.

Support the development and implementation of neighborhood planning sector work plans as a means of setting priorities for implementation of plan recommendations.

## **Major Maintenance**

- MM1** Maintain and update the Department's Major Maintenance Plan. Implement the Department's annual Cumulative Reserve Fund (CRF) financed major maintenance program. Examine and implement, as appropriate, actions to reduce the Department's critical major maintenance needs.
- MM2** Seek ongoing funding levels for major maintenance that will address the backlog and also maintain new facilities as developed through neighborhood planning.

## **Department Staff Considerations for Safety and Security**

- SS1** Continue to implement necessary employee safety actions related to protection against falls from roofs and other high places and to security in confined spaces.
- SS2** Provide staffing for facilities that is compatible with building type in order to increase security.
- SS3** Consider expansion of video camera use to monitor activities in isolated areas.
- SS4** Explore ways to better encourage the optional wearing of identification (Department logo) by park maintenance and recreation employees.

## **Environmental Practices**

- ENS1** Continue to make use of recycled materials in parks and facilities.
- ENS2** Expand recycling associated with operation of community centers and parks.
- ENS3** Continue to reduce the use of pesticides and herbicides.
- ENS4** Continue to evaluate and implement means of reducing water and energy usage. Consider the use of well water at golf courses.

- ENS5** Implement the Departments' Environmental Stewardship Agenda and work with other departments, agencies and the public to implement the City's Environmental Management Initiative.
- ENS6** Prepare departmental recycling guidelines or policies including normal use, special events, and concessionaire activities.
- ENS7** Implement solid waste recycling programs in selected parks in cooperation with Seattle Public Utilities and continue to develop and implement strategies for control of litter in parks.

## **Maintenance and Operations**

- M01** Seek resources to improve basic park maintenance for peak use and weekends. Continue to restructure summer work schedules to allow 7-day coverage and improve weekend support available to special events.
- M02** Continue to seek funding for extended hour operations at selected community centers and extend hours where possible.

## **Agreements**

- AG1** Review current maintenance, operation and programming agreements with Seattle Asian Art Museum and Museum of History and Industry.

## PARTNER FOR RECREATION

### Recreation Programs

#### General

Recreational programming is developed based upon citywide analysis, consideration of local needs and demographics, and the COMPLAN public process. Some recreational programming needs are met through community centers and other Department programming, others are met through community based organizations such as the YMCA. Community Center Advisory Councils provide a great deal of guidance and support for the Department's recreational programming. This listing is not intended to exclude programming ideas that may be identified in the future as a result of citizen or staff ideas, neighborhood planning and work by other agencies.

- RP-G1** Continue adapting recreational opportunities to respond to local needs through programming and expanded hours or operations.
- RP-G2** Work closely with Advisory Councils to identify recreational needs and prepare strategic plans to meet needs at each community center.
- RP-G3** Recognize neighborhood plan recommendations as a guide for investment of resources in development of park, open space, and recreation facilities. Support the development and implementation of neighborhood planning sector work plans as a means of setting priorities for implementation of plan recommendations.

#### Diversity in Service Delivery

- DSD1** Expand the number of bilingual staff in the community centers.
- DSD2** Implement regular communication between staff and groups representing immigrant and/or non-English speaking populations and implement appropriate new outreach or programs tailored to these groups.
- DSD3** Consider characteristics of community center service area when hiring or assigning staff, and when planning programs and related services.

## **Youth Programming**

- YP1** Expand and improve the Teen Life Center programs to additional sites, including sites in the area of the Southwest Community Center, and in southeast Seattle and north Seattle. Pursue funding to implement the Department's Youth Development Strategy in conjunction with the City's "Project Lift-Off" initiative.
- YP2** Define and upgrade availability of food as part of youth programming.
- YP3** Explore operation of Red Barn Ranch and the City Light Skagit Youth Camp facilities for recreational and environmental education programs.

## **Adapt Community Center Programming**

- CCP1** Expand intergenerational programming and family-oriented programs.
- CCP2** Continue staff training to better serve populations with special needs, including persons with disabilities.
- CCP3** Continue to provide programs that meet community needs, pursue developmental assets and include measurable program evaluation for objectives related to health, self-esteem, family cohesiveness, human development, and environmental education.
- CCP4** Expand multiple-use program capability at existing indoor pools through use of portable equipment and other creative approaches.
- CCP5** Establish guidelines and measurable objectives for counseling services to be offered by others in conjunction with community centers.
- CCP6** Work with community groups to expand neighborhood history as part of community center programming, including display of historic photographs in community centers.
- CCP7** Emphasize arts and cultural programs in multi-disciplinary programs and strongly encourage as part of the recreation program mix. Increase opportunities to participate in video and audio arts performance and production.
- CCP8** Seek funding for extended hours of operation to provide Late Night Recreation activities as well as 7-day a week access to community centers.

- CCP9** Provide before- and after-school child care services, including consideration of existing and expanded non-profit and/or concessionaire services. Expand after school programs for middle school aged youth, including employment opportunities.
- CCP10** Expand summer day camp opportunities.
- CCP11** Work with Advisory Councils to implement Project Lift-off (before and after school care for ages 0-18). Continue to work with the Seattle School District to augment existing after-school activities and programs.
- CCP12** Introduce Environmental Education programming at the community center level.
- CCP13** Develop programming for new centers at Sandpoint, International District, and Belltown.

## **Public Information**

- PI1** Continue public information summer program guide to be distributed per a mailing list similar to Department newsletters.
- PI2** Continue to implement program access provisions of ADA, including expanded public information and communications efforts.
- PI3** Provide staff training to community centers and pools for publicity and public information; budget adequate funds in cooperation with recreation advisory councils.
- PI4** Establish Department speakers' bureau and publicize availability.
- PI5** Establish guidelines or policies for commercial advertising in conjunction with special events, excluding any advertising associated with tobacco or other products that can have a demonstrated harmful effect on public health or safety.

## **Efficient Operations**

- E01** Modernize business practices, including effective application of computer technology into program services and use of computers for scheduling activities and tracking program participation. Develop business plans for each center.

- E02** Improve the Department's web page and develop an email newsletter for subscribers to provide general park information.
- E02** Seek support of Advisory Councils to initiate two to three community center financial, operational and/or programmatic audits per year in an effort to continue to improve service delivery.

## **Collaborative Efforts**

- CE1** Increase collaborative programming with Seattle Public Library, Seattle Housing Authority, Seattle Center, Seattle Children's Museum, Seattle Art Museum, Boys and Girls Clubs, YMCA, YWCA, Girls, Inc., Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, Urban 4-H, and community-based organizations such as United Indians of All Tribes Foundation, and other organizations providing potentially complementary programs to those offered by the Department.
- CE2** Work with the Seattle School District and other agencies, as appropriate, to achieve adequate instruction in swimming and water safety, including a larger role for the Department in both instruction and transportation for SSD's programs.
- CE3** Work with Seattle School District and others to define role of Department in computer programmed education and implement appropriate programs.
- CE4** Increase the number of security personnel such that the Department has a 24-hour liaison with Police, Fire, communities, and staff.
- CE5** Consider opportunities for senior programming in association with the Town Hall on First Hill.

## STEWARD OF PARK RESOURCES

### Acquisitions & Development

The following Acquisition and Development activities represent departmental objectives for the next six years. These action items are guided by the policies outlined in the Steward of Park Resources Policy Statements described in the first half of Seattle's Parks and Recreation Plan 2000.

#### General

- SPR-G1** Extend the vision of the Olmsted Brothers, focusing on those areas that were not part of the original plans or are underserved by the plans that were implemented.
- SPR-G2** Emphasize both the preservation and enhancement of Seattle's natural setting, focusing on the greening of parklands, boulevards, streets and trails and the enhanced quality of all bodies of water within the parks system.
- SPR-G3** Work with neighborhoods and other community based groups to preserve and expand open space, boulevards, and trails, focusing on the most deficient areas, and encouraging appropriate uses consistent with the characteristics of the site as well as future development and maintenance requirements.
- SPR-G4** Pursue innovative creation of open space in high-density areas, focusing on partnerships with neighborhoods and the private sector, work with the Department of Design, Construction and Land Use to mitigate the impact of new development and provide for open space where appropriate.
- SPR-G5** Maintain a high level of functional and aesthetic quality in all areas, focusing on those sites requiring an upgrade of quality and systematic replacement of an aging park infrastructure.
- SPR-G6** Recognize neighborhood plan recommendations as a guide for investment of resources in development of park, open space and recreation facilities. Support development and implementation of sector work plans as a means for setting priorities for implementation of neighborhood plan recommendations.



## Acquisitions

- ACQ1** Continue to seek King County Conservation Futures Tax (CFT) monies, Washington State Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (IAC) funding and other funding to undertake open space acquisition. Seek to create an ongoing fund source for open space acquisitions as opportunities arise.
- ACQ2** Include open space and park acquisitions as part of any future levy, bond issue, or other funding measures. Pursue selected acquisitions, smaller scale improvements, or elements of such actions through a combination of strategies, including Neighborhood Matching Fund, Cumulative Reserve Fund, available grants, and self-help.
- ACQ3** Complete the acquisition of the Naval Reserve property at South Lake Union, and proceed with interim park development.
- ACQ4** Continue to work with the US Navy to effect the return of former park property and acquire other property at Smith Cove. Plan for long term park improvements at the site, including sportsfield development.
- ACQ5** Acquire the Ravenna Woods property along the Burke Gilman Trail.
- ACQ6** Acquire selected surplus Seattle City Light substation sites and submerged lands per neighborhood plan recommendations and in other areas not covered by neighborhood plans.
- ACQ7** Acquire surplus WSDOT property on 6400 block of Corson in response to Georgetown Neighborhood Plan.
- ACQ8** Work with Seattle Public Utilities to identify opportunities for new park uses of reservoir land as part of reservoir lidding program.

## Regional and Major Park Development

- RMP1** CARKEEK PARK: Continue reforestation, wetland enforcement and creek restoration efforts; upgrade trails for ADA access; and expand and improve the Carkeek Environmental Education Center.
- RMP2** GAS WORKS PARK: Implement environmental remediation project scheduled for Spring 2000 and support further park development.

- RMP3** GOLDEN GARDENS: Provide further wetland and dune restoration; upgrade park roadways and parking areas. Consider renovation of Golden Gardens Bathhouse in conjunction with improved teen activities.
- RMP4** GREEN LAKE PARK: Restore water quality and restore shoreline in selective locations, provide for restroom improvements and restore parking lot by Bathhouse Theater.
- RMP5** DISCOVERY PARK: Provide further reforestation and meadow reclamation. Remove old Seattle Police Department mounted patrol facilities and return site to natural conditions. Acquire Army Reserve's "500 Area" and convert to park use. Resolve issues with United Indians of All Tribes Foundations' Indian Cultural Center development. Correct problems at the existing north parking lot such as failing pavement, replace the kiosk and signage. Begin planning for development of "Bay Terrace" area of the park.
- RMP6** JEFFERSON PARK: Prepare site plan for the community center area to site gymnasium, play area, tennis courts and other park improvements. Construct gym and play area. Work with Seattle Public Utilities and the community on open space opportunities resulting from decommissioning of north reservoir. Consider the Olmsted legacy at Jefferson in the planning for future improvements at the park.
- RMP7** KUBOTA GARDENS: Continue restoration of the gardens and provide park improvement consistent with approved plan.
- RMP8** LINCOLN PARK: Undertake reforestation and trail restoration. Replace aging water and utility systems. Develop the Lincoln Park Annex as park space and community garden consistent with neighborhood plan and current community planning effort.
- RMP9** MAGNUSON PARK: Implement high priority elements of the adopted Magnuson Park Concept Design. Specifically, develop sportsfields, upgrade dog off-leash area, undertake shoreline restoration and provide initial development of the northshore recreation area. Renovate Building 47 for community center and swimming pool use, and undertake other building renovation as funding is available. Provide for an environmental education center in one of the buildings. Remove the old Navy commissary (Building 193, et al), restore wetlands and restore wildlife habitat at Promontory Point. Reuse Building 406 for community use.
- RMP10** SEWARD PARK: Undertake reforestation; provide shoreline restoration to address erosion and to enhance fish habitat. Adaptively reuse the old fish hatchery site per the results of the current study. Improve perimeter roadway/pathway. Replace the electric distribution system and other

utilities. Remodel the cottage (former Art Studio Annex) into an environmental learning center.

- RMP11** SOUTH LAKE UNION: Complete the acquisition of the Naval Reserve property at South Lake Union; complete an amendment to the master plan for the new park; and proceed with priority improvements.
- RMP12** VOLUNTEER PARK: Restore park roadways and utilities. Upgrade play area and wading pool for ADA accessibility. Restore fountains/pools. Work with Seattle Public Utilities to integrate revisions to the Volunteer Park Reservoir into the historic park setting, and close off-leash area and relocate to another Capitol Hill area location in a manner consistent with Ordinance 118727.
- RMP13** WASHINGTON PARK ARBORETUM: Complete the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the new Arboretum Master Plan and implement priority projects. Complete planning for a reused Arboretum-Lakeside Trail and implement trail project in accordance with the adopted plan. Work towards completion of the Japanese Garden.
- RMP14** WOODLAND PARK: Implement picnic area and roadway renovation.
- RMP15** WESTCREST PARK: Undertake reforestation and other park improvements in main park area consistent with current community-based planning effort. Upgrade the dog off-leash area per the plan.

## **New and Existing Park Development**

- PD1** Demolish the old greenhouse facilities at the Greenwood Greenhouse site to prepare the site for park development.
- PD2** Complete the planned new park space atop the Lincoln Reservoir adjacent Bobby Morris Playfield. Develop the park consistent with the historic character of the old gatehouse and other features that date from the Olmsted era.
- PD3** Complete the Seaboard Lumber Aquatic Site Restoration project and work with appropriate resource agencies on long term (seven years following completion of the construction contract) environmental monitoring of the restoration.
- PD4** Provide new park or playground space, depending on the selected site, with the development of the new Northgate Community Center.

- PD5** Support the implementation of the park elements within the Ballard and Lake City Municipal Centers.
- PD6** Work with the community and agency partners to reclaim the historic headwaters of Longfellow Creek by restoring the wetland at Roxhill Park.
- PD7** Complete redevelopment of TT Minor Playground.
- PD8** Complete projects recommended in neighborhood plans such as new parks at Cedar Park and the Last Open Space in Lake City. Pursue other neighborhood plan projects including the conversion of old City Light substations to park use in Greenwood, North Rainier, and elsewhere, and other projects as opportunities arise.
- PD9** Work with the Department of Design, Construction, and Land Use to explore provision of open space in return for increased density development opportunities in dense urban areas.
- PD10** Work with the King County on their pilot program for Transfer of Development Rights from county rural areas to Denny Triangle.

## **Boulevards and Trails**

- NOTE** Improvements related to boulevards and trails are based upon consultation with Seattle Transportation. Projects to be undertaken in street or utility rights-of-way that are assumed to be undertaken by Seattle Transportation are not listed. The listed projects are envisioned as park-related trail projects.
- BT1** Continue to manage Lake Washington Boulevard, and other boulevards in order to preserve and enhance their Olmsted heritage.
- BT2** Undertake a revised Arboretum Lakeside Trail project to restore sensitive wetland and shoreline environments at the north end of the Washington Park Arboretum and provide controlled access to same.
- BT3** Provide safety related improvements from Latona Avenue North northerly on the Burke-Gilman trail. Work with Seattle Transportation on the “Blakely Crescent Park” at 25th Avenue NE and the Burke-Gilman Trail.
- BT4** Prepare restoration plan and install a soft surfaced pedestrian trail on Cheasty Boulevard.
- BT5** Develop trails along or near Longfellow and Thornton Creeks.

- BT6** Restore bicycle pathway, landscaping, shoreline and other features on Lake Washington Boulevard.
- BT7** Develop link from north end of Sand Point to Burke Gilman Trail spur in Magnuson Park.
- BT8** Rebuild the bicycle trail in connection with King County CSO project in Myrtle Edwards Park and explore the potential to extend the trail to the south as part of the plan for the proposed Seattle Art Museum Olympic Sculpture Park.
- BT9** Provide improvements at 26th Avenue SW and SW Brandon Street linking Puget Boulevard.
- BT10** Support planning efforts for Wallingford Steps connection to Gas Works Park.
- BT11** Support Seattle Transportation efforts to create the Chief Sealth Trail on Beacon Hill and connections to parks such as Dearborn Park as appropriate.
- BT12** Support Seattle Transportation efforts to improve the former Interurban right-of-way for trail use and provide for connections to Bitter Lake Playfield.
- BT13** Work with Seattle Transportation, as is appropriate, to provide for “Green Street” improvements in urban villages.
- BT14** Upgrade trails in Madrona, Frink and other parks to improve access to Lake Washington Boulevard and other shoreline parks.

## **Urban Creeks**

- UC1** Working with Seattle Public Utilities, undertake restoration of urban creeks such as Piper’sCreek, Thornton Creek, Taylor Creek, Longfellow Creek, and others.
- UC2** Participate in planning and design of Millenium Creeks Program projects on park property or providing connections to park property.
- UC3** Develop and implement Best Management Practices to protect urban creeks for wildlife and fish habitat.
- UC4** Work with King County to design and construct daylighted segments of Ravenna Creek within Ravenna and Cowen Parks as part of the piped

reconnection of Ravenna Creek to Union Bay to be constructed by King County.

## **Urban Habitat**

- UH1** Continue working with Seattle Transportation and the Urban Forest Alliance to develop a citywide approach to tree management and strengthen the connection to ongoing planting of trees. Coordinate with other City departments, agencies and citizens to implement the Millennium Woods Legacy.
- UH2** Outline reforestation plans in selected parks and undertake reforestation and vegetation management to restore native plant communities. Utilize volunteers where appropriate in such work and institute park stewardship committees to provide long term care of restoration sites. Pursue funding for additional tree crews to properly care for the Department's urban forests.
- UH3** Designate Park Natural Resource Areas within appropriate parks, including consideration of wildlife habitat and wildlife corridors. Establish development and maintenance guidelines for such areas. Implement the priority items within the Wildlife Habitat Initiative.

## **Landscaping**

- L1** Provide for restoration of ornamental landscapes throughout the Seattle park system. Provide particular attention to historic landscapes of the Olmsted tradition.
- L2** Establish best management practices for public landscaping as part of the Environmental Management Initiative.

## **Shorelines**

- SH1** Provide for renourishment of beaches and shorelines to stem erosion and enhance nearshore fish habitat consistent with other City efforts related to the listing of Pacific Salmon per the Endangered Species Act.
- SH2** Complete a study of shoreline conditions and fish utilization of same at Seward Park in conjunction with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and seek funding to implement any recommendation from such.

- SH3** In conjunction with SEATRAN, identify shoreline street ends with signs. Where appropriate, provide limited improvements to encourage public use. Produce a brochure on shoreline street ends and distribute to the public.

## **Park Historic Elements**

- PH1** Designate Park Historic Areas within appropriate parks, including consideration of 1930s WPA-era landmark improvements as well as Olmsted planned and/or designed parks. Establish development and maintenance guidelines for such areas. Consider establishment of a Department conservator position to maintain historical information, records, and documents as well as coordinate review of major maintenance and development proposals (Olmsted parks, WPA improvements, etc).
- PH2** Complete a study for the reuse of the Seward Park fish hatchery site and seek funding to implement the recommendations of same.

## **Planning**

- PL1** Work with United Indians of All Tribes Foundation to resolve issues related to the Indian Cultural Center, which is part of Discovery Park. Plan for further improvements at the north end of the park, including the Bay Terrace area and needed restoration of the north parking lot, kiosk and other park features.
- PL2** Recognize the unique open space needs of downtown including the significant lack of parks in the Central Business District and emerging residential areas. Work with the Strategic Planning Office Department, Department of Design, Construction and Land Use, SEATRAN and others, as appropriate, in achieving increased open space for downtown.
- PL3** Work with community groups on planning and development of new and existing park space to address local interest and concerns balanced with city-wide needs.
- PL4** Work towards the development of skateboard parks at selected parks and playgrounds.
- PL5** Investigate the creation of marine reserves at Seattle's shoreline parks (e.g., Carkeek, Golden Gardens, Discovery Park, Alki Beach, Lincoln Park, Schmitz Overlook).

- PL6** Undertake more detailed planning analysis, once 2000 census data is available, in order to assess park, recreation and open space needs throughout the city.

## **Early Implementation Fund Projects**

- EIF1** Support North Seattle Park Decorative Garden project.
- EIF2** Continue to assist community with Ballard Open Space Development project as necessary.
- EIF3** Continue to assist the Greenwood/Phinney neighborhoods in implementing the Greenwood Greenhouse park planning project.
- EIF4** Provide continued assistance to the Roosevelt community in implementing Cowen Park Cable Glide project.
- EIF5** Continue to support the Queen Anne community with the development of parks at 5th and Blaine and Newton.
- EIF6** Support the Maritime Heritage Museum planning effort in conjunction with South Lake Union Master Plan update project.
- EIF7** Support Belltown community effort to develop feasibility study for neighborhood center.
- EIF8** Implement improvements at Yesler Terrace ballfield, including fence, backstop and irrigation improvements.
- EIF9** Continue to assist community with implementation of the Madrona Playfield Improvements Project.
- EIF10** Continue to help the Columbia City community to implement the Orca Elementary School site plan and improvements greening project.
- EIF11** Plan for and make pathway improvements to Cheasty Boulevard as EIF funding allows.
- EIF12** Provide continuing support to North Rainier community in project at Bradner Gardens Park.
- EIF13** Support North Beacon Hill community's Jefferson Park East West Walk planning and development project.



- EIF14** Continue to support the Critter Sculpture project initiated by the Delridge community.
- EIF15** Support Roxhill Park wetlands project including development of informational signs.

## STEWARD OF PARK RESOURCES

### Park Management & Environmental Stewardship

The following Park Management and Environmental Stewardship activities represent departmental objectives for the next six years. These action items are guided by the policies outlined in the Steward of Park Resources Policy Statements described in the first half of Seattle's Parks and Recreation Plan 2000.

#### General

- PMM-G1** Improve maintenance of existing parks, focusing on budgeting for adequate staff, fostering Adopt-A-Park volunteer efforts, and increasing quality control.
- PMM-G2** Achieve the optimal use of limited resources through use of employee involvement committees, effective training, use of available technology, conservation of energy/water, recycling, and maximizing the use of volunteer assistance.
- PMM-G3** Foster a feeling of community ownership and pride, focusing on community participation in planning, design development, programming, and maintenance.
- PMM-G4** Maintain the living park inventory of plants and trees, focusing on reforestation, enhancement and restoration of natural communities, plant replacement, turf restoration, control of nuisance plants, and provision of proper conditions for growth.
- PMM-G5** Integrate environmental stewardship goals in all roles, responsibilities and workplace expectations of all Seattle Parks employees.
- PMM-G6** Recognize neighborhood plan recommendations as a guide for investment of resources in management and maintenance of park, open space and recreation facilities. Support development and implementation of sector work plans as a means for setting priorities for implementation of neighborhood plan recommendations.

## **Maintenance Objectives**

- M01** Develop open space maintenance strategies to address the increased inventory of undeveloped land (trails, tree care, providing more access for community use).
- M02** Clarify measurable objectives for maintenance of open spaces and parks and develop clearer measures of relationships between staffing levels and maintenance objectives. Continue to develop Maintenance Initiative to accomplish these tasks.
- M03** Establish a Department staff sportsfield renovation team to systematically rehabilitate turf at existing sportsfields.
- M04** Consider implementation of a 5- or 6-year cycle of interior remodeling to improve the appearance and of all community centers.

## **Environmental Protection**

- EP1** Continue to establish conservation ethic, park legacy information, and effective resource management training for all staff, particularly through utilizing Best Management Practices for landscape installation and maintenance.
- EP2** Designate and protect natural and historic resources (including wildlife habitat) within parks, focusing on sensitive resource management, public information, staff training, and maintenance procedures.
- EP3** Establish criteria for replanting or replacing plants including criteria related to use of native species and water use and develop measures to reduce use of irrigation.
- EP4** Work with communities and other agencies to improve water quality in local creeks, including sensitive maintenance practices where creeks run through park property.
- EP5** Work with other Departments, agencies, and the public to implement the City's Environmental Management initiative to reduce use of herbicides and utilize Best Management Practices for landscape installation and maintenance.
- EP6** Update the Urban Wildlife Habitat Conservation Plan that outlines measures to protect aquatic, intertidal, beach, and wetland habitats, in

addition to terrestrial habitats. Incorporate habitat restoration or enhancement measures in maintenance activities as well as capital projects.

**EP7** Continue to participate in regional urban waterfowl control program. Modify landscapes as appropriate to discourage geese problems.

**EP8** Continue to work towards improvements in water quality at Green Lake.

## **Non-Park Use of Park Property**

**NPU1** Continue to provide a program to reclaim or put under permit City-park property occupied by unauthorized activities/encroachments by (1) surveying, monitoring, and identifying such activities/encroachments; (2) notifying the owner/operator of the need to request a permit; (3) processing the permit in accordance with the aforementioned policies and procedures; and (4) working to remove unauthorized activities/ encroachment if a permit is not granted.

## **Park Safety**

**PS1** Work toward long-term solutions for security problems, focusing on preventive measures such as intensive programming in problem parks and increased partnerships with police and park neighbors.

**PS2** Utilize environmental design principals in park planning to improve security in new park development or existing parks when redeveloped.

**PS3** Consider expansion of video camera use to monitor activities in isolated areas.

## **P-patches**

**PP1** Work with the Department of Neighborhoods to ensure that any development of p-patches on park properties is done consistent with the character of the park, adds to the park experience, and does not displace existing recreational use. Assist the Department of Neighborhoods in acquisition of new properties for p-patch purposes.

## STEWARD OF PARK RESOURCES

### Environmental Education

The following Environmental Education activities represent departmental goals for the next six years. These action items are guided by the policies outlined in the Steward of Park Resources Policy Statements described in the first half of Seattle's Park and Recreation Plan 2000.

#### General

- EE-G1** Teach a conservation ethic, focusing on coordinated efforts of all Department divisions and cooperative efforts with other resource agencies, neighborhoods, developers, landscapers, and schools. Emphasize outreach.
- EE-G2** Nurture a spirit of civic responsibility regarding the natural environment focusing on public education, positive recognition, innovative programs, and role models.
- EE-G3** Provide interpretive programming to foster public education and understanding of natural systems in Seattle parks.
- EE-G4** Develop environmental stewardship information and programs that are consistent with and complement and support environmental stewardship programs and practices of schools and other public agencies.
- EE-G5** Recognize neighborhood plan recommendations as a guide for investment of resources in park and recreation environmental education. Support development and implementation of sector work plans as a means for setting priorities for implementation of neighborhood plan recommendations.

#### Environmental Education Programming

- EEP1** Expand existing environmental education programs at Carkeek and Discovery Parks and Camp Long. Develop new environmental education programs at Seward Park and Magnuson Park. Develop outreach or off-site programs in addition to programs at these particular sites. Utilize volunteer (docent) programs to achieve such expansion. Consider environmental education programming recommended in neighborhood plans.

- EEP2** Incorporate environmental education programs and messages into community center program offerings. Provide environmental education trips to natural resource sites within the region using community center programs.
- EEP3** Review the Department's environmental education programs and organizations and expand partnerships with other agencies.
- EEP4** Expand and incorporate historical programming and interpretation into environmental education efforts.
- EEP5** Define and pursue measurable objectives for environmental education.
- EEP6** Incorporate the concept of civic responsibility regarding the natural environment as part of interpretive programs and public information efforts.

## **Partnership with other Agencies**

- PRT1** Expand outreaches (off-site) environmental education programming in conjunction with Seattle School District.
- PRT2** Provide continuing education in environmental education for schoolteachers.
- PRT3** Work with selected teachers to prepare teachers' guides for the outdoor classroom concept at sites such as Carkeek Park, and broadly publicize availability to schools and teachers.
- PRT4** Expand environmental education programs at the Woodland Park Zoo and The Seattle Aquarium to better serve Seattle School District students.
- PRT5** Continue working with the Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) to incorporate watershed and fish issues, as well as values associated with wetlands and riparian areas, into environmental education efforts.